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ADVENTURE COMICS

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NO. 496
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HOW LONG CAN SUPERGIRL™ FAKE POWERS FOR THE LEGION of SUPER-WEAKLINGS ?

DEATH TAKES A GAMBLE AND THE JACKPOT IS THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN™

ADVENTURE COMICS 100 PAGES 31709

NO. 496

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CARL GAFFORD/NICOLA CUTI: Co-Editors

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ADVENTURE COMICS, Vol. 48, No. 496, February, 1983. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10103. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices.

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SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024. Annual subscription rate $15.00. Outside U.S.A. $16.00.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024.

THERE IS A LINE MOST PEOPLE WILL NOT CROSS--A LINE WHICH MARKS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE SAFE AND FAMILIAR AND THOSE HORRORS THAT WE FEAR! NOW THERE ARE FOUR MEN WHO DARE TO JOURNEY BEYOND THAT BORDER OF THE FRIGHTENING, FOUR MEN LIVING ON BORROWED TIME...

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

AN OTHERWISE DESERTED SHORELINE ON THE ISLAND OF KAUAI, HAWAII...

SURE WISH WE HAD MORGAN WITH US! THE GUY WHO FLEW US IN OUGHTA HAVE HIS LICENSE REVOKED!

MAYBE--BUT AT LEAST *HE* DIDN'T CRASHLAND ON THE SIDE OF MOUNT WAIALEALE!

YOU'VE GOT TO LOOK AT IT THAT WAY, DAVIS!

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, PROFESSOR!

GEEZ--THIS IS ONE HECKUVA SPREAD YOUR COUSIN FREDDIE'S GOT HERE! I'D HAVE TO POUR EVERY CENT FROM A *TITLE BOUT* INTO A PLACE LIKE THIS!

TWO MEN OF FOUR WHO HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TOGETHER BY FATE! TWO MEN SEARCHING FOR THE REASON FOR THE CERTAIN DEATH THEY WERE ALLOWED TO CHEAT! TWO MEN CHASING...

"TOMORROW'S ANSWERS!"

BOB ROZAKIS, WRITER ★ ALEX TOTH and FRANK GIACOIA, ARTISTS ★ MILT SNAPINN, LETTERER ★ ANTHONY TOLLIN COLORIST ★ CARL GAFFORD EDITOR

YES, WELL, IT'S QUITE POSSIBLE FREDDIE'S BEEN SPENDING MONEY HE DOESN'T HAVE YET! MONEY THAT UNCLE CYRUS LEFT TO ME!

MONEY FREDDIE INHERITS IF YOU KICK THE BUCKET!

PROFESSOR, THERE AIN'T A MUCH BETTER MOTIVE FOR MURDER!

I GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT IN A MINUTE, WON'T WE?

WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO-- KNOCK ON THE DOOR AND SAY, "EXCUSE ME, COUSIN FREDDIE, DID YOU MAKE MY PLANE CRASH?"

YOU GOT SMARTS, PROFESSOR, BUT SOMETIMES I DON'T THINK YOU GOT MUCH SENSE!

WE AIN'T ABOUT TO LET FREDDIE GET READY FOR US...LIKE WITH A GUN, YOU KNOW?

KABAM!

HERE'S HOW WE KNOCK ON THE DOOR!

THE DOORBELL DOES WORK, GENTLEMEN!

OH MY LORD--

HEY, PROFESSOR-- YOU STILL WITH US?

I ALWAYS LAUGHED WHEN SOMEBODY SAID IT IN THE MOVIES, BUT YOU LOOK LIKE YOU SEEN A GHOST!

YOUR CHOICE OF PHRASE IS RATHER APPROPRIATE, YOUNG MAN!

MY NEPHEW IS INDEED SEEING A GHOST! I AM HIS "DECEASED" UNCLE CYRUS!

DECEASED AS FAR AS THE GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED, IN ANY CASE! FREE TO EARN AND SPEND MY MONEY ANY WAY I WISH... WITHOUT A TAXMAN TAKING TWO DOLLARS FOR EVERY ONE I KEEP!

BUT SUCH A SCHEME WOULD NOT HAVE APPEALED TO YOU, MY HONEST YOUNG FELLOW!

ONLY FREDDIE KNEW I WASN'T REALLY DEAD! HE WOULD HAVE RETURNED HIS "INHERITANCE" TO ME --

--AND STILL WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE THAN COMFORTABLE FOR LIFE!

AND SO HERE I AM, LIVING LIKE A BILLIONAIRE UNTIL SOMEONE REALIZES I CAN'T PAY MY BILLS --

--AND ALL BECAUSE OF AN IMPROPRIETY IN THE NEWER WILL!

FREDDIE MOANED AND CRIED WHEN HE SAW WHAT HAPPENED, BUT HE WAS TOO MUCH THE WEAKLING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT!

I MAY BE OLD AND WEAK, BUT I AM NOT A WEAKLING--

POP

ZZZAAPP

HE'S STILL ALIVE! BUT HE'LL NEED MEDICAL ATTENTION!

KEEP YER SHIRT ON! I'M CALLIN'!

YOUR UNCLE'S A CROOK... AND HE'S A FEISTY OLD GUY, BUT I GOT A GUT FEELING HE DIDN'T BOOBY-TRAP MORGAN'S PLANE!

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR COUSIN?

NO. CYRUS IS RIGHT. UNDER PRESSURE, FREDDIE MELTS INTO A CRACK IN THE SIDEWALK!

THIS IS ANOTHER DEAD END!

"YEAH, I GUESS! LET'S HOPE MORGAN AND THE KID ARE DOIN' BETTER IN VEGAS..."

LIKE I SAID, I'M *IN* TO THESE GUYS FOR *FIFTY GRAND* AND THEY GET VERY TOUCHY IF YOU DON'T MAKE THE PAYMENTS--

--WHICH I HAVEN'T BEEN DOING LATELY!

OWING PEOPLE *MONEY* I CAN UNDERSTAND! MY *INTEREST CHARGES* PER MONTH ARE MORE THAN MOST PEOPLE *EARN*!

BUT WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS WHY YOU KEPT THIS A SECRET FROM US!

YOU SOUND LIKE MY *MOTHER*!

I JUST DIDN'T TRUST YOU GUYS-- WE ONLY *MET* FOUR DAYS AGO! WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU ALL ABOUT MY PERSONAL LIFE!

BUT LOOK, YOU KNOW *NOW*--SO LET'S GO!

UH, BERNIE, EXCUSE ME! COULD I TALK TO YOU FOR A MINUTE... IN PRIVATE?

EH?!

RYAN?! DIDN'T EXPECT TUH SEE YOUR FACE AROUND THESE PARTS *AGAIN*!

C'MON! LET'S STEP INTUH MY OFFICE!

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YOU BETTER HAVE THE FIFTY G'S YOU OWE ME, RYAN! YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANY MORE CREDIT AROUND HERE!

YOU HEAR ME?

I HEAR YOU, BERNIE! NOW YOU HEAR THIS--

--I THINK YOU TRIED TO HAVE ME *BUMPED OFF* BY PLANTING A GIZMO IN MY BAGS THAT CAUSED OUR PLANE TO CRASH!

I KNOW ALL ABOUT THE WAYS YOU DEAL WITH *BAD DEBTS*!

YOU THINK WE TRIED TO KILL *YOU*?! IF YOU WERE DEAD, I'D *NEVER* COLLECT THE *MONEY* YOU OWE ME!

NOW, SINCE I EXPECT THIS MEETING IS A PURELY *NON-FINANCIAL* ONE, WHY DON'T YOU AND YOUR PAL HERE TROT ALONG!

AND COME BACK WHEN YOU'VE GOT MY DOUGH!

HE'S PROBABLY RIGHT, RED! IT DOESN'T *MAKE* SENSE TO HAVE YOU KILLED...

...BREAK YOUR LEGS, MAYBE...

GOOD AFTERNOON, GENTLEMEN! I LOOK FORWARD TUH SEEING YOU AGAIN, RYAN-- WHEN YOU'RE READY TUH PAY OFF!

YEAH, WELL IN THE MEANTIME, WHY DON'T YOU PAY JOHNNY GREEN THE THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND YOU OWE HIM!

DON'T YOU FRET ABOUT THAT, BOY! WE ALWAYS PAY OFF OUR DEBTS...

...ONE WAY OR TH'OTHER!

WHAT WAS THAT LAST BIT? WHO'S JOHNNY GREEN?

A BUDDY OF MINE--LIVES IN TEXAS, RIGHT NEAR THE AIR-PORT WHERE WE MET!

HE HIT THE NUMBERS BIG WITH THESE GUYS... THREE HUNDRED GRAND!

AND, I TAKE IT, HE HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO COLLECT?

SUPER 25¢ JACKPOT

25¢

JACKPOT $250

NOPE! IN FACT, HE WAS SUPPOSED TO FLY OUT HERE WITH ME LAST WEEK...

...BUT HE GOT CAUGHT UP IN SOMETHING AND MISSED THE PLANE! AND SINCE I HOOKED UP WITH YOU GUYS, NEITHER OF US GOT HERE!

BAM

C'MON! C'MON!

TELL YOU ONE THING--HE SURE WAS GLAD HE WASN'T WITH *US* IN YOUR PLANE!

JUST HIS LUCK, AFTER WINNING ALL THAT MONEY, *HE'D* BE THE THE ONE TO GET KILLED!

GOT A QUARTER?

HERE!

SO, ANYWAY--I GUESS WE'RE BACK TO SQUARE ONE ... *AGAIN!*

BAM!

25¢

C'MON, YOU LOUSY MONEY-EATER! I WANT A WINNER!

SUPER

I'LL TAKE THAT! IT *WAS* MY QUARTER, AFTER ALL!

KLINK!

WAIT A MINUTE, WHERE'RE YOU GOING? WE'RE ON A ROLL!

WE CAN'T QUIT NOW!

OH YEAH? JUST WATCH ME!

COME ON!

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LATER IN THE PENTHOUSE HOME OF DAVEY JONES

SO YOU GUYS FLEW TO HAWAII AND WE FLEW TO VEGAS AND ALL WE'VE GOT TO SHOW FOR IT IS JET LAG!

HMM. DAVIS STRIKES ME AS THE KIND OF GUY WHO GOES FOR PAINTINGS OF TIGERS ON BLACK VELVET!

WHERE IN THE WORLD DID HE GET AN ORIGINAL MATISSE?

THIS IS GETTING REALLY RIDICULOUS GUYS!

SOMEBODY SPENT A SMALL FORTUNE GETTING THIS CRAZY PLASTIC GIZMO MADE!

PLASTIC!! THAT'S THE ANSWER!

"PLASTIC"?!

HOPE YOU DON'T MIND FOOTING THE BILL FOR FOUR MORE PLANE FARES, ROCKY! WE'VE GOT A DATE WITH A KILLER!

COMES TO A SURPRISING CONCLUSION NEXT ISSUE! BE HERE!

SUPERGIRL
THERE'S ONLY ONE SLIM CHANCE TO SAVE EARTH FROM THE TERRIBLE POSITIVE MAN WHO MENACES IT! WILL MY PLAN WORK? IF NOT, THE ENTIRE SOLAR SYSTEM, AS WELL AS EARTH, WILL BE DESTROYED!

THOUGH SHE'S AS SUPER-POWERFUL AS **SUPERMAN**, **SUPERGIRL** IS, AFTER ALL, A MERE GIRL... WHO FINDS HERSELF SUDDENLY UP AGAINST A MASSIVE PER. GREATER THAN EVEN THE **MAN OF STEEL** HAS EVER TACKLED! CAN SHE DEFEAT AN IMMATERIAL, LIVING, DIABOLICAL **FORCE-BEING** SHE CAN'T EVEN TOUCH? SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL TACKLES...

SUPERGIRL'S GREATEST CHALLENGE!

J.M MOONEY, ARTIST • JERRY SIEGEL, STORY

ONE DAY IN MIDVALE, AS LINDA LEE DANVERS, WHO IS SECRETLY **SUPERGIRL**, WALKS HOME FROM SCHOOL...

WHAT 'S THIS FAN-CLUB YOU'RE TAKING ME TO, MARGIE? IS IT AN ELVIS PRESLEY FAN CLUB?

YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN YOU GET TO MY HOUSE, LINDA!

SHORTLY, AT MARGIE'S HOME..

;GASP!; PICTURES AND STATUETTES OF **SUPERMAN** ARE ALL OVER THIS ROOM, MARGIE!

YES! WE'RE ALL FANS OF THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MAN! DO **YOU** WANT TO JOIN?

OF COURSE!

WHAT A SURPRISE! IF THE GIRLS KNEW HE'S MY COUSIN, THEY'D **FLIP!**

WE ALL ENVY ETHEL. **SUPERMAN** PERSONALLY GAVE HER THAT RAIN-COAT WITH HIS INSIGNIA ON ITS BACK, BECAUSE LAST YEAR SHE SAVED A FRIEND FROM DROWNING AT CAMP!

MINUTES LATER...

HERE'S OUR GUEST SPEAKER, REPORTER LOIS LANE OF THE **DAILY PLANET**, WHO'S **VERY** CLOSE TO OUR IDOL!

I'LL PRETEND TO BE JUST AS THRILLED AS THE OTHERS.

TELL US EVERYTHING, MISS LANE!

AS SOON AS ORDER IS RESTORED, THE PRETTY REPORTER BEGINS HER TALK...

SUPERMAN HAS SAVED MY LIFE SCORES OF TIMES WHILE I COVERED DANGEROUS STORIES. AND I'VE EVEN HAD THE THRILL OF ADVENTURING WITH HIS NEW PARTNER, **SUPERGIRL!**

AS A MATTER OF FACT, SHE'S YOUR AGE AND SOMEWHAT RESEMBLES **YOU!** BUT SHE HAS BLONDE HAIR, UNLIKE YOURS!

EVERYONE'S STARING AT ME! - WHEW! FORTUNATELY, THEY THINK IT'S MERE COINCIDENCE! THEY DON'T DREAM MY DARK HAIR IS A WIG I WEAR TO CONCEAL MY **SUPERGIRL** IDENTITY!

LATER AFTER LINDA RETURNS [illegible] HOME HER FATHER RUSHES IN

LINDA! THERE'S A BIG EMERGENCY! WHILE WALKING IN THE WOODS, I SAW FOREST RANGERS WORKING NEAR THE EXIT LID OF THE SECRET TUNNEL WHICH LEADS FROM OUR BASEMENT INTO THE NEARBY WOODS! THEY'RE GOING TO BLOW UP A TREE STUMP RIGHT NEXT TO IT!

[illegible] DAUGHTER [illegible]

THANKS FOR THE WARNING, DAD! IF THEY BLAST THAT STUMP, THE HOLE THEY CREATE WILL EXPOSE THE TUNNEL.. AND A CLUE TO MY SECRET IDENTITY WILL BE REVEALED!

[illegible]

I'M FLYING FASTER THAN THE HUMAN EYE CAN FOLLOW, AND IN ANOTHER MOMENT I'LL BE HIDDEN FROM VIEW BY THOSE STORM CLOUDS!

MEANWHILE,

ALL RIGHT, JOE! LIGHT THE EXPLOSIVES NOW! WE'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THAT DISEASED STUMP SO ITS FUNGUS WON'T INFECT NEARBY TREES!

MOVE BACK, EVERYBODY!

[illegible] THE RANGERS AREN'T LOOKING AT THE STUMP! I THINK I CAN GET AWAY WITH MY TRICK! I'LL PROJECT MY HEAT-VISION DOWNWARD AND AT THE SAME TIME FAKE THE SOUND OF THUNDER BY CLAPPING HANDS!

[illegible] WHEN A BOLT OF LIGHTNING DESTROYED THE STUMP FOR US! LUCKILY, IT DIDN'T BLOW UP THE T.N.T.! LET'S GO!

MY RUSE WORKED! I DISPOSED OF THE STUMP FOR THEM--AND THE SECRET TUNNEL BY WHICH I'M ABLE TO LEAVE THE HOUSE AS **SUPERGIRL** HASN'T BEEN EXPOSED!

CLAP

AFTER **SUPERGIRL** RECEIVES HER AWARD...

CONGRATULATIONS, DEAR! YOU HANDLED THAT EMERGENCY CLEVERLY!

THAT RINGING BELL... IN MY BEDROOM! IT'S A PRE-ARRANGED SIGNAL! I'D BETTER CHECK!

RING! RING! RING! RING!

OH-OH! JUST AS I THOUGHT! A BELL'S RINGING INSIDE THAT MODEL OF THE SUPER-HERO CLUBHOUSE! AND LOOK AT THE BOOK-ENDS ON MY DESK!

THE FIGURINES ON THE BOOK-ENDS ARE SHAPED LIKE THE **LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES!** NOTICE THAT THE FIGURES' HEADS ARE **GLOWING!** THAT MEANS THEY WANT ME TO JOIN THEM IN THE FUTURE, IMMEDIATELY! 'BYE!

MOMENTS LATER, **SUPERGIRL** STREAKS AT SUCH INCREDIBLE SPEED ABOVE MIDVALE, THAT SHE VANISHES INTO THE TIME-BARRIER...

I WONDER WHY THEY'RE SUMMONING ME? IT'LL BE GOOD TO SEE THEM AGAIN! EACH OF THEM POSSESSES **ONE** SUPER-POWER!

1980

1962

2000

EMERGING FROM THE BARRIER, INTO THE 21ST CENTURY **SUPERGIRL** FLASHES TO THE CITY OF **METROPOLIS**...

HOW FASCINATINGLY FUTURISTIC... ESPECIALLY THAT INTERESTING EXHIBIT BELOW!

MARS CITY EXHIBIT SMALL REPRODUCTION OF MARS' GREATEST CITY AND ITS IMPENETRABLE DOME!

SPEEDILY, THE **GIRL OF STEEL'S** TELESCOPIC VISION HELPS HER LOCATE HER FRIENDS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

COSMIC BOY, SATURN GIRL, SUN BOY, BOUNCING BOY, AND THE OTHER LEGIONNAIRES ARE RECEIVING THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE IN THE ARENA!

BELOW / YOU DID A GREAT JOB OF ENTERTAINING THE AUDIENCE AT THIS TESTIMONIAL THE **EARTH POLICE** STAGED IN YOUR HONOR, LEGIONNAIRES! THANKS!

HOW ABOUT AN ENCORE FOR THE FOLKS AT HOME? THEY'RE ALL WATCHING YOU ON THEIR 3-D TV SETS

FIVE SECONDS LATER, THE SUPER HEROES ARE CAUGHT ON 3-D TV IN MILLIONS OF HOMES...

NO WONDER THEY CALL HIM **BOUNCING BOY!**

LIGHTNING BOY IS A HUMAN DYNAMO!

SUN BOY SHINES BRIGHT!

SOON...

THANKS FOR COMING IN RESPONSE TO OUR SIGNAL, **SUPERGIRL!**

QUICK! INTO OUR SPACE-SHIP! THE SOLAR SYSTEM IS THREATENED BY A PERIL ONLY **YOU CAN OVERCOME!** **YOU** HAVE **MANY** SUPER-POWERS WHILE **WE** HAVE ONLY **ONE** POWER EACH!

AFTER THEY BLAST OFF

TELL ME ABOUT THE MENACE!

SIT DOWN IN THE **MIND-PICTURES** CHAIR, **SUPERGIRL!** YOU'LL MENTALLY "SEE" THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF THE PERIL OUR TIMESCOPE TRACED AFTER WE WERE ALERTED BY ASTRONOMERS!

INSIDE THE CRAFT.

THE MIND-TAPE PICTURES ARE BEING PROJECTED INTO YOUR "THIRD-EYE" PINEAL GLAND BY CEREBRAL INDUCTION!

:GASP!: WHAT I "SEE" MENTALLY IS ALMOST BEYOND BELIEF!

SHORTLY... THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO SPARE! IT DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE ANYONE CAN STOP IT--BUT TRY...TRY!!

I'VE GOT TO SUCCEED! OPEN THE ESCAPE-HATCH!

GOOD LUCK! OUR PRAYERS WILL GO WITH YOU!

OFF INTO THE AWESOME DARKNESS OF SPACE STREAMS THE WORLD'S YOUNGEST GIRL

I CAN SEE IT NOW, WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION! :CHOKE: WHAT A MIND-STUNNING PERIL! IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT ACTUALLY EXISTS!

PRESENTLY... THERE HE IS...THE POSITIVE MAN! A DESTRUCTIVE FORCE WHICH WAS ONCE --HUMAN! THAT MIND-TAPE REVEALED HE WAS ONCE AN ALIEN SCIENTIST WHO BLEW UP HIS PLANET WHILE CREATING A DOOMSDAY BOMB! THE EXPLOSION TRANSFORMED HIM INTO THIS TERRIBLE MENACE! ENVIOUS OF ALL LIFE, HE ROAMS THE COSMOS JEALOUSLY, DESTROYING INHABITED WORLDS!

:CHOKE:--IT CHANGED ITS COURSE DELIBERATELY, AND WIPED OUT THAT NEARBY POPULATED PLANET! AND NOW IT'S HEADING TOWARD EARTH AGAIN! I MUST DESTROY IT!

BUT AS SHE FLASHES AT THE EVIL MENACE... I'M STREAKING RIGHT THROUGH IT! I'M UNHARMED BECAUSE OF MY INVULNERABILITY! :GROAN: SINCE IT'S NOT A MATERIAL OBJECT, BUT A FORCE COMPOSED OF POSITIVE IONS, I CAN'T SEIZE IT!...IS EARTH DOOMED??

DECADES AFTERWARD, INSIDE THE SPACESHIP. SUPERGIRL'S FLYING OFF! SINCE SHE COULDN'T HARM THE **POSITIVE MAN**, HAS SHE GIVEN UP HOPE? IS SHE ABANDONING EARTH TO ITS FATE?

SUPERGIRL! SHE'S NO QUITTER.

...AT MILES SPEED'S THE FLASH OF STEEL!

I RECALL THAT WHEN **POSITIVE MAN** WAS CREATED, THE SAME EXPLOSION ALSO AFFECTED A WILD ANIMAL BEING STUDIED FOR INTELLIGENCE BY SCIENTISTS CONVERTING IT INTO A **NEGATIVE CREATURE!**

THE BLAST OF THE EXPLOSION FLUNG BOTH OF THEM INTO SPACE IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS! IF ONLY I CAN LOCATE THE **NEGATIVE CREATURE**, PERHAPS...

AFTER **SUPERGIRL'S** TELESCOPIC VISION LOCATES THE EERIE CREATURE...

COME AND GET ME, IF YOU CAN!— GOOD! YOU'RE FLYING AFTER ME! EXACTLY WHAT I **WANT!!**

BACK TOWARD OUR SOLAR SYSTEM STREAKS **SUPERGIRL**...

THE **POSITIVE MAN** IS GESTURING FRANTICALLY FOR THE **NEGATIVE CREATURE** TO STAY AWAY! TOO LATE! THEY'RE BEING DRAWN TOGETHER IRRESISTIBLY!

NEXT MOMENT

HOORAY. THE TWO WERE DRAWN TOGETHER LIKE THE **POSITIVE** AND **NEGATIVE** POLES OF A MAGNET ATTRACTING EACH OTHER! AS A RESULT OF THIS FUSION, THEY'RE DISAPPEARING! THE CONTACT WAS SO TERRIFIC, THEY CANCELLED OUT EACH OTHER!!

LATER AFTER **SUPERGIRL** SIGNALS THE TRAILING SPACESHIP TO RETURN TO EARTH

CONGRATULATIONS, **SUPER-GIRL!** YOU WERE GREAT! WATCH ME **BOUNCE** FOR JOY! OUCH" I C CAN'T!

I'LL HURL THUNDER-BOLTS IN CELEBRATION! AWP! N-NOTHING HAPPENED!

I MEAN- I MENTALLY COMMANDED THAT LOAD TO JUMP. AND IT **DIDN'T!**

RADIATION FALLOUT CAUSED BY THE DESTRUCTION OF THE **POSITIVE MAN** AND **NEGATIVE CREATURE** MUST HAVE ROBBED ALL OF US OF OUR SUPER-POWERS!

HMM. MY SUPER-POWERS ARE UNIMPAIRED.. I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE I'M INVULNERABLE TO EVERY-THING EXCEPT KRYPTONITE RADIATIONS!

GREAT GUNS! IF THE UNDERWORLD LEARNS WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE LEGION, A TERRIBLE CRIME-WAVE WILL ERUPT!

HOW DREADFUL!

DON'T WORRY, FRIENDS! THE LOSS OF YOUR SUPER-POWERS MAY BE ONLY TEMPORARY! MEANWHILE, YOU'LL APPEAR TO BE AS SUPER AS EVER! HOW'LL WE MANAGE IT?.. **WAIT AND SEE!**

AND SO, **SUPERGIRL** BEGINS HER PATROL OF THE METROPOLIS OF THE FUTURE..

COVERING UP FOR THE NON-SUPER **LEGIONNAIRES WON'T** BE EASY, BUT IT'S A CHALLENGE I **WELCOME!**

PARDON THE TELEPATHIC INTERRUPTION! **BUT... PLEASE GIVE** ME SOME MILK!

GREAT SCOTT! IT'S MY SUPER-PET FROM 1962 A.D.! HOW??

STREAKY! WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING **HERE** IN THE FUTURE? AND HOW DID YOU EVER MASTER THOUGHT-CASTING?

STREAKY?!... MY NAME IS... **WHIZZY!**

YOU HAVE A "W" INSIGNIA ON YOUR CAPE INSTEAD OF AN "S"! THE ENGRAVING ON YOUR COLLAR EXPLAINS EVERYTHING!

WHIZZY DESCENDANT OF FAMED FUNERCAT

I'M **SUPERGIRL!** YOUR ANCESTOR **STREAKY** WAS MY PET, YEARS AGO! BUT HE WASN'T TELEPATHIC! I SEE HIS DESCENDANTS GAINED THE ABILITY THROUGH THE PROCESS OF EVOLUTION!

I LIKE YOU! "LL TAG ALONG!

FOR EXAMPLE, IN AN **ANDROID FACTORY**, WHERE CHEMICALLY-MANUFACTURED "MEN" ARE CREATED AND SOLD TO HUMANS...

I AM HEAD SCIENTIST, LON DURYAL! MAY I ASSIST YOU?

ANDROID LABORER

SELL ME AN ANDROID WHO RESEMBLES ME! MY TWINS WILL THINK SHE'S THEIR MOTHER WHEN SHE BABY-SITS FOR ME!

I WANT AN **ANDROID PILOT** FOR MY SPACE YACHT! HE MUST BE **SHORTER** THAN I, UNDERSTAND?

AS THE CLIENTS WAIT...

MADAM, KINDLY TELL YOUR LITTLE FIENDS TO STOP BLOWING THOSE COLORED PLASTIC BUBBLES AT ME! BUBBLE-TUBES, WITH THEIR BUBBLE CARTRIDGES THAT LAST A LIFETIME, **REVOLT ME!**

LATER, AS THE CLIENTS LEAVE WITH THEIR ANDROIDS,

LON DURYAL, I'VE JUST RECEIVED AN UNDERWORLD TIP THAT YOU MAY BE ROBBED OF YOUR MOST VALUABLE **ANDROIDS!**

THANK YOU FOR THE WARNING COSMIC BOY! WITH YOU HERE, THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR!

SOON ..

STOP THEM, **COSMIC BOY!** THOSE ROBOTS, REMOTE-CONTROLLED BY CROOKS, CRASHED THROUGH THE WALL AND ARE KIDNAPPING **ANDROIDS**, WHOSE BRAINS CAN INVENT GREAT SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES! THEY'RE WORTH MILLIONS!

MEANWHILE...

EXCUSE ME, **WHIZZY!** MY SUPER-VISION REVEALS I'VE GOT TO FLY UNSEEN INTO THAT **ANDROID** FACTORY AND ASSIST **COSMIC BOY!** WAIT HERE!

OKAY! SURE WISH YOU'D LET ME HELP, THOUGH!

SPEEDING INTO THE FACTORY, **SUPERGIRL** SNATCHES UP THE TWO **DISCARDED** BUBBLE-TUBES, REMOVES THE CARTRIDGES, THEN...

I INSTRUCTED **COSMIC BOY**, BY MEANS OF A SUPER-VENTRILOQUISTIC WHISPER, TO **PRETEND** HIS POWERS OF SUPER-MAGNETISM STILL WORKS! MY SUPER-VACUUM-BREATH IS DOING THE REST! POWERFUL SUCTION, THROUGH THESE TUBES, IS YANKING EACH OF THE ROBOTS THROUGH THE AIR, SO THEY'RE CRACKING UP AGAINST EACH OTHER!

AFTER SHE REJOINS **WHIZZY** AND RESUMES HER PATROL...

IF THE CROOKS WHO SENT THOSE ROBOTS WERE WATCHING THE ROBBERY ON A VISION-SCREEN; THEY'VE BEEN FOOLED INTO THINKING **COSMIC BOY** IS AS POWERFUL AS EVER!...OH-OH! MORE TROUBLE! THAT HORTICULTURAL LAB BELOW!

INSIDE THE HOT-HOUSE LAB..

NO! PLEASE DON'T STEAL THIS SPRAY! THESE **TREE MEN** ARE FROM THE PLANET ARBRO — WHOSE SUN HAS WEAKENED TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT ITS SOLAR RAYS DON'T CREATE CHLOROPHYL!

THIS NEWLY-INVENTED SPRAY MAY ACCOMPLISH WHAT THE SOLAR RAYS CAN'T, AND SAVE THE **TREE-PEOPLE** FROM EXTINCTION...

GIVE IT TO ME, OR I'LL BLAST YOU! THE SPRAY CONTAINS VALUABLE RARE CHEMICALS THAT I CAN SELL FOR A FORTUNE!

DROP THAT RAY-GUN!

GAA! IT'S **SUN BOY**... RADIATING LIGHT AND **HEAT!** D-DON'T BURN ME. I SURRENDER..

THANK GOODNESS YOU SHOWED UP, **SUN BOY!**

I KNOW YOU FAKED MY SUPER-POWERS, BUT **HOW** DID YOU DO IT?

BRINGING YOU HERE, I COATED YOU WITH **LUMINOUS POWDER** WHICH GLOWED BRIGHTLY! THEN FROM MY PLACE OF CONCEALMENT, I PROJECTED MY HEAT-VISION ON THE CROOK!

BECAUSE OF YOUR STRATEGY, HE THOUGHT I **STILL** POSSESSED MY **SUN-** POWER!

AND NOW I'M PUFFING OFF THE POWDER!

SEE YOU LATER AT THE CLUBHOUSE! I SURE HOPE **ALL THE LEGIONNAIRES GET THEIR LOST SUPER-POWERS BACK SOON!**

HOURS LATER, INSIDE THE **SUPER-HERO CLUBHOUSE**...

SUPERGIRL HASN'T ARRIVED YET, AND SO ITS SAFE FOR US TO CHANGE BACK TO OUR **REAL** FORMS

;CHUCKLE; LITTLE DOES SHE SUSPECT WE'RE NOT THE REAL LEGIONNAIRES- BUT MEMBERS OF A CHAMELEON RACE FROM ANOTHER PLANET WHO CAN DISGUISE OUR-SELVES AS **ANYTHING!**

[illegible] TRAVELLED THIS AND BROUGHT [illegible] IN A SEALED CASE TO THE LEGION HQ! [illegible] SUPERGIRL WAS BUSY STUDYING THE **POSITIVE** AREA, HE HOPPED OUT AND [illegible]

THOUGH WE LOOKED LIKE THE LEGIONNAIRES, WE WERE UNABLE TO DUPLICATE THEIR SPECIAL POWERS, SO WE PRETENDED THE RADIATION FALLOUT HAD MADE US NORMAL!

YES, WE'VE SOLVED **THAT** PROBLEM! THANKS TO THAT **PHANTOM ZONE RAY** MACHINE WE STOLE FROM THE **MUSEUM OF FORBIDDEN WEAPONS!**

OUR ONE STUMBLING BLOCK NOW IS **SUPER-GIRL!** BUT WE CAN ELIMINATE **HER,** TOO!

SOON AFTER THE **CHAMELEON-MEN** [illegible] THEMSELVES ONCE AGAIN INTO FAKE LEGIONNAIRES, **SUPERGIRL** ARRIVES AT THE [illegible]

SURPRISE, **SUPERGIRL!** WE'RE GOING TO SEND YOU OUT OF THIS WORLD!

THEY AREN'T JOKING! MY [illegible] VISION REVEALS THEY'RE NOT IMPERSONATORS WEARING PLASTIC MASKS!

[illegible] TO THE **PHANTOM** [illegible] MACHINE'S [illegible] BUTTON [illegible] PRESSED.

OH, NO! **WHIZZY** AND I HAVE BOTH BEEN CHANGED INTO **PHANTOMS!**

YIPES! DARNED UNFRIENDLY OF THEM!

HI HA, HA!

[illegible]

SUPERGIRL

[illegible]...A TWILIGHT [illegible] INTO WHICH DANGEROUS KRYPTONITE [illegible] HAD BEEN PROJECTED TO [illegible] [illegible] LIKE WISE TRAP FOR THE DURATION OF [illegible]

STRANGE...THE ZONE'S EMPTY EXCEPT FOR YOU AND I, **WHIZZY!** I GUESS, AS THE YEARS WENT BY, THE PHANTOMS, WHO WERE CONFINED HERE WERE RELEASED ONE BY ONE AS THEIR SENTENCES WERE COMPLETED!

THEN AS THE PHANTOM **SUPERGIRL** RETURNS TO THE CLUBHOUSE AND DISCOVERS THE PLOTTERS' IDENTITIES AND PLANS...

NOW TO DESTROY THE REAL LEGIONNAIRES AFTER WE GO TO THE ASTEROID WHERE WE LEFT THEM IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION!

I'VE GOT TO **STOP** THEM! B-BUT HOW?? IN MY PHANTOM STATE, MY HANDS PASS THROUGH SOLID OBJECTS--AND I'M UNABLE TO SPEAK ALOUD!...WAIT... PERHAPS **WHIZZY** CAN HELP SAVE THE REAL LEGIONNAIRES!

WHIZZY... YOU CAN NOT ONLY READ MINDS, BUT YOU CAN MENTALLY COMMUNICATE WITH OTHERS! PLEASE USE YOUR TELEPATHIC POWERS AS I DIRECT! IT'S URGENT!

GLADLY! JUST THINK OF WHAT YOU WANT ME TO DO AND I'LL GET THE MESSAGE!

FOLLOWING THE PHANTOM **SUPERGIRL'S** INSTRUCTIONS, THE PHANTOM **WHIZZY** COMMUNICATES WITH LON DURYAL, HEAD SCIENTIST AT THE **ANDROID FACTORY**...

THIS IS **WHIZZY** RELAYING TELEPATHIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM **SUPERGIRL** WHO IS TRAPPED IN THE **PHANTOM ZONE**! CREATE AN **ANDROID CHAMELEON MAN**. THEN INSTRUCT THE **CHAMELEON ANDROID** AS FOLLOWS...

QUICKLY, LON DURYAL MANUFACTURES AN **ANDROID CHAMELEON** MAN. THEN...

GO TO THE SUPER HERO CLUBHOUSE, THEN PROCEED ACCORDING TO THE PLAN I HAVE OUTLINED!

GOT IT!

SOON, AS THE **ANDROID** ENTERS THE CLUBHOUSE...

ANOTHER **CHAMELEON MAN**! HAVE YOU COME FROM OUR WORLD WITH FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FOR US?

I'VE COME TO...

...RELEASE **SUPERGIRL** AND **WHIZZY** FROM THE **PHANTOM ZONE** BY PRESSING THE WHITE BUTTON ON THE **PHANTOM ZONE RAY** MACHINE --

WHIZZY AND I HAVE MATERIALIZED AGAIN!

THANKS, **ANDROID**, I'LL TAKE OVER NOW!

YOU **CHAMELEON** PHONIES ARE GOING TO JAIL!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! WE'LL ESCAPE BY TRANSFORMING OURSELVES INTO OBJECTS SUCH AS TREES OR ROCKS!

OFF SUPER-SPEEDS **SUPERGIRL** TO THE MINIATURE **MARS CITY** EXHIBIT

I'LL BORROW THIS IMPENETRABLE DOME!

AFTER SUPERGIRL RETURNS.

CHANGE INTO ANYTHING YOU WANT. NOW! YOU STILL WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THIS DOME! NOW TO NOTIFY THE INTERPLANETARY POLICE TO TAKE YOU CHARACTERS INTO CUSTODY!

PRESENTLY, GUIDED BY HER SUPER-VISION, SUPERGIRL LOCATES THE ASTEROID WHERE THE LEGIONNAIRES ARE IMPRISONED--AND REVIVES THEM WITH AN ANTIDOTE RAY

SUPERGIRL! WH-WHAT HAPPENED T-TO US?

I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, COSMIC BOY!

LATER, AS THEY RETURN TO METROPOLIS...

WE OF THE FUTURE OWE YOU SO MUCH, SUPERGIRL! HOW CAN WE EVER THANK YOU?

SKIP IT! YOU'D DO THE SAME FOR MY TIME PERIOD! NOW I MUST RETURN! GOOD-BYE, EVERYBODY! YOU TOO, WHIZZY!

SO LONG, SUPERGIRL! I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!

INTO THE TIME-BARRIER AND BACK TOWARD 1962 A.D. FLASHES THE GIRL OF STEEL...

WHAT AN ADVENTURE THAT WAS! THE CHAMELEON MEN GANG SURE HAD ME FOOLED FOR A WHILE! I'D HAVE BEEN A GONER EXCEPT FOR WHIZZY!

2000

1968

1980

RETURNING TO THE PRESENT, SUPERGIRL SWITCHES TO HER IDENTITY AS LINDA LEE DANVERS...

IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK, STREAKY! I WONDER WHAT YOU'RE THINKING? HA, HA! IF YOU HAD WHIZZY'S TELEPATHIC POWERS YOU COULD TELL ME!

WHIZZY? WHO'S THAT!?

AND TO THINK IT ALL BEGAN WHEN THE HEADS ON THOSE BOOK-ENDS GLOWED! I WONDER WHEN I'LL NEXT BE SUMMONED TO VISIT THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES!

END

UNDERWORLD REWARD PART 2

AQUAMAN

WELL, THERE'S **TWO** BOYS WHO WON'T BE COLLECTING THE REWARD!

LAST ISSUE, THE UNDERWORLD PUT A PRICE ON AQUAMAN'S HEAD... A **BIG** REWARD FOR WHO-EVER FINISHED OFF THE FISH-MAN. AND THAT'S ALL WE'RE GOING TO TELL YOU NOW--THE FOLLOWING DIALOGUE SHOULD FILL IN EVERYTHING ELSE YOU NEED TO KNOW..

I CAN THINK OF ONLY **ONE** REASON WHY I'VE SUDDENLY BECOME **SO IMPORTANT!** **SOMEONE** THINKS THE MAN WHO WAS SHOT AT THE WATERFRONT PASSED SOME INFORMATION ONTO ME...

AND THEY WANT TO STOP **ME**, BECAUSE I PASS THE INFO ONTO ANYONE ELSE!

SURE WISH HE **HAD** TOLD ME SOMETHING, SO I'D HAVE SOME INKLING AS TO WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT !!

BUT ALL HE DID BEFORE HE DIED WAS **MUMBLE INCOHERENTLY!**

BUT WHO'S THE **BIG MAN** BEHIND ALL THIS ?

MAYBE ONE OF THESE SMALL-FRY ASSASSINS CAN [illegible] ME !

[illegible] AROUND !

OKAY, FELLA -- NOW YOU AND ME ARE GONNA HAVE OURSELVES **A LITTLE CONVERSATION!!**

WHO'S BEHIND THIS ?? **WHO** PUT THE PRICE ON MY HEAD !

WAIT ! I--

I DON'T KNOW **MUCH** ! SOME GUY IN THE SYNDICATE OFFERED THE REWARD BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO **HE** IS ! BUT THERE'S **A MIDDLE MAN...** GUY WHO'S HOLDING THE REWARD LOOT ! I KNOW **HIM** !

OKAY THEN, WHO **IS** HE ??

SHORTLY...

AND BE-FORE LONG, A MAN IN A TRENCH COAT ENTERS THE BUSY JOE'S GRILL

THAT OUGHT TO HOLD 'EM TILL THE POLICE SHOW UP !

THAT MAN WITH THE BIG CIGAR ! **HE** FITS THE MIDDLE MAN'S DESCRIPTION !

HARLAN— GOTTA TALK TO YUH ! **THIS** GIRL AT THE POLICE STATION HAD A NOTE FROM **AQUAMAN**! SHE WAS DELIVERIN' IT TO THE **COPS** ! I FIGURED SHE MUST BE IN CONTACT WITH AQUAMAN !

AND NOW THAT I KNOW THE MIDDLE MAN'S NAME AND WHERE HE HANGS OUT, IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME FOR SOME **UNDERCOVER** WORK !

THE SEA KING SITS AT A TABLE CLOSE ENOUGH FOR EAVES-DROPPING PURPOSES...

YEAH ? SO ?

SO I TOOK HER! I GOT 'ER BACK AT MY PLACE--TIED UP! SHE AIN'T SAID NOTHIN' SO FAR! BUT I'LL MAKE HER TALK YET!

I HAD HER DELIVER THE NOTE... TOLD HER SHE WOULDN'T GET INTO ANY TROUBLE! AND NOW THIS!

OKAY, SO WHY ARE YOU TELLIN' ME ALL THIS??

THE GIRL! THEY...THEY'VE GOT HER!

--I WANT AN ADVANCE ON THE REWARD! I NEED THE DOUGH! I'M SURE THE REWARD'S GONNA BE MINE! ALL I NEED IS--

GIT OUTTA HERE, YOU FOOL! NOBODY GITS A CENT TILL AQUAMAN'S DEAD! GIT IT??

WELL, IT'S LIKE THIS--

AS THE KIDNAPPER LEAVES THE BAR, HE IS NOT ALONE..

GET ANYTHING OUTTA HER YET ??

NO, BOSS...

LISTEN, SISTER--I DIDN'T GIT THE LOOT, AND I WON'T TILL YOU START TALKING! THAT BETTER BE NOW!

BIG MAN! GETS HIS KICKS HITTING WOMEN!

WHA-?

IT'S HIM! AQUAMAN! BLAST HIM!

I CAN'T MISS!

YOU CAN'T!

I CAN TAKE 'EM BY SURPRISE FROM ABOVE-- IF I CAN OPEN THIS QUIETLY ENOUGH!

5

WOW! TH... THAT WAS FAST!

HAD TO BE! WE HAVEN'T GOT ANY TIME TO WASTE! NOT IF I'VE GOT THINGS FIGURED RIGHT!

FOOTSTEPS! SOMEONE'S HEADING OUR WAY! COULD BE ANOTHER BATCH OF HOODS!

PICK UP THAT GUN AND GET OUT OF SIGHT!

THE NEXT INSTANT, TWO LAUNCH THEMSELVES INTO THE ROOM, AND...

TRIPPED... HUH?..

C'MON, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!

I'VE GOT TO FIND YOU A PLACE WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE! DON'T DARE TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT! IT'S RIGHT IN THE UNDERWORLD'S HOME TERRITORY!

I'VE GOT SOME FRIENDS WHO LIVE UP-TOWN! MAYBE...

SHE'LL BE SAFE HERE, AQUAMAN!

YES, I'M **SURE** SHE WILL! OH...DO YOU HAVE A **COAT** I COULD BORROW? I HATE TO **IMPOSE** LIKE THIS, BUT I LEFT **MINE** BACK AT THE WAREHOUSE...FORGOT IT DURING ALL THE **EXCITEMENT!**

SURE, **I'VE** GOT ONE YOU CAN TAKE!

OH.. I'LL NEED **THE GUN,** TOO!

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU **PLANNING?!**

TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF TH S **WHOLE MESS!**

AND THESE ARE GONNA BE MY **TOOLS** FOR SOLVING THIS MYSTERY!

MISTER, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

BEAT IT!

NOT YET! THIS IS A GUN I'VE GOT IN YOUR RIBS! I SUGGEST YOU DON'T MAKE ANY EXCESSIVE NOISE, OR IT MIGHT JUST ACCIDENTALLY GO OFF!

HUH-? DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM? YOU CAN'T...

SHUT-UP! I SAID NO EXCESSIVE NOISE-- REMEMBER? NOW... OUTSIDE! GET UP AND WALK OUT-- QUIETLY!

AND ONCE OUTSIDE...

YOU WON'T GIT AWAY WITH THIS! MY BOYS'LL FIND YOU, AND...

SO WHAT?? THERE'S ALREADY A PRICE ON MY HEAD! DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T GUESSED WHO I AM!!

YOU'RE... YOU'RE AQUAMAN!!

A BRILLIANT DEDUCTION!

IF I SHOT YOU, I WOULDN'T BE IN ANY WORSE SHAPE WITH THE SYNDICATE THAN I ALREADY AM!

SO YOU'D BETTER TALK-- TELL ME WHO PUT OUT THE REWARD FOR ME-- OR ELSE I WILL SHOOT !!

NO! Y-YOU CAN'T BLUFF ME! YOU W-WON'T SHOOT! YOU SUPER-HEROES OR WHATEVER YOU ARE HAVE A CODE OF HONOR! Y-YOU-- WOULDN'T

OH, WOULDN'T I? JUST WATCH !!

HE'S RIGHT OF COURSE! I COULD NEVER KILL A MAN IN COLD BLOOD! BUT I'VE GOTTA GET THE INFORMATION OUT OF HIM SOMEHOW! AND I'VE GOT TO DO IT FAST!

C'MON, TALK, BIG MAN! OR DO I HAVE TO BREAK YOUR ARM FIRST?? TALK!!

MEANTIME... FAR BENEATH THE SEA, AQUAMAN'S YOUTHFUL ALLY, AQUALAD, HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY THE WARRIORS OF A STRANGE, NEARLY-DEAD CULTURE, AND...

SO--THIS WAS THEIR PLAN! THEY BROUGHT ME HERE TO FIGHT THIS MONSTER, IN HOPES THAT I CAN DESTROY IT BEFORE IT PROCEEDS ON TO DESTROY THEIR VILLAGE!

THE COWARDS! FLEEING... LEAVING ME ALONE TO FACE THIS BEAST!

BUT I CAN'T RUN! THIS BEAST MOVES TOO QUICKLY!

I HAVE NO CHOICE! I MUST FIGHT THIS MONSTROSITY... TO THE DEATH!

MAYBE **THEY** THINK THEIR VILLAGE IS WORTH SAVING! MAYBE THEY THINK IT WAS WORTH THE LIVES OF THE WARRIORS WHO PREVIOUSLY DIED FIGHTING THIS MONSTER! BUT **I** DON'T!

I HAVE TO FIGHT THIS.. **THING** TO SAVE **MY OWN** SKIN!

NNG!

UH... GOTTA **PULL BACK...** TILL MY HEAD STOPS **SPINNING!**

HE'S **SMART! MOVING UP...** BLOCKING MY PATH, SO I CAN'T REGAIN MY SPEAR!

I CAN'T **GET AWAY!** AND I CAN'T HOPE TO DEFEAT HIM **WITHOUT THE SPEAR** EITHER!

I'VE GOT TO TRICK HIM INTO LETTING ME GET BY HIM SO I CAN GET TO MY SPEAR!

IT'LL TAKE A LOT OF DOING... AND IF I FAIL... **I'M DEAD!**

AND AS AQUALAD MAKES HIS LIFE OR DEATH MOVE... BACK ON THE SURFACE, THE SEA KING REACHES HIS DESTINATION

I FINALLY GOT THAT HOOD TO TALK, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF HE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH!

THE WAY THIS DEBRIS IS PUSHED TO THE SIDE SUGGESTS THAT THIS ENTRANCE IS BEING USED BY SOMEONE!

FURTHER IN AND AROUND A CORNER AQUAMAN FINDS WHAT HE'S LOOKING FOR...

THIS IS THE ABANDONED SUBWAY ENTRANCE HE TOLD ME ABOUT! NO ONE AROUND... I MIGHT AS WELL GO ON IN!

THIS SURE IS AN ELABORATE SET-UP! LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF JAMES BOND! WONDER WHY THEY WENT TO ALL THIS TROUBLE!

A SECRET HEADQUARTERS IN AN OLD WAREHOUSE WOULD HAVE SERVED THEIR PURPOSE JUST AS WELL!

HERE'S THE HOLE IN THE WALL!

THEN...

GUARDS! SOMEONE SURE ISN'T TAKING ANY CHANCES! I'LL HAVE TO GET PAST THEM!

MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE HIDDEN HEADQUARTERS...

SIR, HAS THERE BEEN ANY WORD YET? I MUST **REMIND** YOU-- I HAVE TO HAVE TIME! THE MACHINERY HAS TO BE ACTIVATED **TWO HOURS** BEFORE THE PROJECT CAN BEGIN!

TAKE IT EASY, LITTLE MAN! I STILL HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT AQUAMAN!

AND I REFUSE TO BEGIN THE OPERATION UNTIL I'M **SURE** HE'S OUTTA THE WAY! IT'S TOO RISKY TO--**HEY! WHAT'S--**

LOOK!

BOK SOK

IT'S **HIM!** HE--

SHUT-UP, FOOL! THIS IS MY **CHANCE** TO MAKE **CERTAIN** HE'S DONE FOR! HE WAS **OUTTA HIS MIND** TO COME HERE!

NO YOU DON'T! **YOU'RE** IN THIS AS MUCH AS ANYONE ELSE!

NOW I'VE GOT 'IM!

UNH!

THE FORCE OF THE BLOW SENDS AQUAMAN TUMBLING INTO THE NEXT ROOM...

WHOOP! THIS MACHINERY MUST BE PART OF THE PROJECT THEY'RE PLANNING!

NICE OF THEM TO TURN ON ME IN HERE! MAKES IT EASIER TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS PLOT!

THUD

BUT, I'VE GOT TO DROP THIS FELLOW FIRST! AND HIS SKINNY FRIEND!

BETTER DO IT FAST! THOSE TWO GUARDS WON'T STAY UNCONSCIOUS FOREVER!

OKAY, LITTLE FELLA-- UNLESS YOU WANT **SOME OF THE SAME**, YOU'D BETTER START RUNNING OFF AT THE MOUTH! TELL ME WHAT ALL THIS STUFF IS FOR!

W-WAIT! HE...HE'S ACCIDENTALLY TURNED **ON!**

IT HAS TO BE **CONTROLLED!** OR OR THIS **WHOLE PLACE** WILL BLOW UP!!

YEAH? WELL, THAT'S JUST A CHANCE **WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE!** YOU'LL HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD TO CONTROL THE MACHINERY, **AFTER** YOU TELL ME WHAT IT'S FOR!

BUT...BUT...

THERE HE IS!!

GET HIM!

RAR

UH...OH! THE GUARDS HAVE COME AROUND!

THEN, SUDDENLY...

DON'T GO AWAY LITTLE MAN! I'LL DEAL WITH YOU LATER!

GOT TO GET TO THE MACHINE...

FRANTICALLY, THE SCIENTIST TRIES TO BRING THE DELICATE MACHINERY UNDER CONTROL... TURNING DIALS... REACHING DEEP INTO CONTROL COMPARTMENTS...

?

DEAD! IN HIS HASTE, HE MUST HAVE TOUCHED A LIVE WIRE OR SOMETHING!

WELL, I SURE WON'T BE GETTING ANY INFORMATION OUT OF HIM! AND THAT MACHINERY'S ACTING UP! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE... QUICK!!

PLACE FILLED WITH ALL SORTS OF PASSAGEWAYS! DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN NEXT!

WAIT! SOME SORT OF A WINDOW! MAYBE THAT'S A WAY OUTTA HERE!

THE OCEAN!! THIS PLACE IS UNDER WATER! THAT CAVE MUST'VE LEAD INTO THE SEA TO THIS UNDERWATER FORTRESS! THIS GETS CRAZIER AND CRAZIER...

SUDDENLY AN EXPLOSION! AND THE SEA IS COMING THROUGH THE GLASS...

WHEW! GOOD THING MY BODY CAN WITHSTAND QUICK CHANGES IN PRESSURE! I'M A LITTLE GROGGY...BUT OTHERWISE A-OKAY!

THAT WAS A MINOR EXPLOSION! NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO BLOW THE WHOLE PLACE AS THAT SCIENTIST SAID!

BUT I'D BEST GET OUT OF HERE, BEFORE HIS PREDICTION COMES TO PASS!

BUT, JUST THEN, SOME-THING OFF TO THE SIDE, CATCHES THE SEA KING'S EYE...

THIS ONE'S SPINNING MUCH FASTER THAN THAT OTHER!

CAN'T...GET AWAY!.. IT'S...IT'S PULLING ME IN...IN TOWARD IT! I'E...

WHA-? A WHIRLPOOL... LIKE THE ONE MERA WAS TRAPPED IN! HEADING THIS WAY!

MONTHS AGO, AQUAMAN, YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WERE TRAPPED IN SWIRLING WATERS..

NOW YOU ALONE ARE TRAPPED..

THIS...MUST BE... ARTIFICIAL WHIRLPOOL! AS THE...OTHER ONE WAS, BUT...

MONTHS AGO, AS THE SWIRLING GREW YOUR VISION BECAME OBSCURED... YOU LOST SIGHT OF THE OTHERS...

NOW YOU CAN NO LONGER SEE YOUR OWN HANDS BEFORE YOUR FACE...

MONTHS AGO, YOU WERE HELPLESS AS THE CAPTORS YOU COULD NOT CLEARLY SEE DRAGGED MERA AWAY...

NOW, YOU TOO ARE HELPLESS... TRAPPED...

CAN'T TAKE... ALL THE SPINNING! GONNA... LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS...

MUST... FIGHT IT! MUSTN'T... BLACK... OUT

CAN'T... SEE CLEARLY! BUT ...I MUST STILL... BE CLOSE TO... THAT FORTRESS !..

GOTTA GET...AWAY FROM... THIS WHIRLPOOL...

IF... THAT THING BLOWS NOW... I'LL BE TORN TO BITS!!

JUST THEN...

MERA! SHE'S...

NO! I'M SEEING THINGS! GOTTA CONCENTRATE! GET...OUT OF THIS... THING...

MORE VISIONS.. AQUAMAN, THE SORCERERS, THE STRANGE INHABITANTS OF THE DEPTHS...

THIS SPINNING...AFFECTING MY MIND! STARTING TO HALLUCINATE! GOTTA IGNORE IT!.. GOTTA FIGHT THIS WHIRLPOOL!.. IT--

THEN... THE
EXPLOSION!!
KA-ZAM

SOMEHOW, YOU'RE STILL CONSCIOUS. AS YOU SHOOT THROUGH THE WATER AT IMPOSSIBLE SPEED. THERE IS NO PAIN! YOU FEEL **NOTHING!** IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH YOU WERE IN A DREAM...

THEN, LIKE DEATH'S SHROUD, THE DARKNESS BEGINS TO SWIRL IN AROUND YOU...

IT BLANKETS YOU... SEEPS INTO YOUR BRAIN ...AND ALL SENSATION VANISHES..

LATER.. YOU AWAKE ...YOU ARE ON A BEACH... AND SOMEONE IS KNEELING OVER YOU...

I...I CAN HARDLY BE...BELIEVE IT! I'M **ALIVE!** DON'T EVEN FEEL **INJURED!** MY...

THEN YOU LOOK UP, AND...

WHA-?

AIIEE!!

DARLING I WAS--

NO! IT CAN'T BE! IT CAN'T BE!!

I MUST STILL BE DREAMING! I MUST...

AND AS AQUAMAN FALLS BACK INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS, THIS EPISODE ENDS!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE EXPLANATION!

SHAZAM! PROUDLY PRESENTS A *NEW* ADVENTURE STARRING THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY...

CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.

Dear Diary,
One of CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.'S wildest adventures happened the other morning when I woke up to a series of odd occurrences -- beginning with...

"THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING NEWSSTAND!"

STORY: ELLIOT S! MAGGIN

APT: DAVE COCKRUM

EVERY MORNING, PEOPLE SCURRY TO WORK AS *FREDDY FREEMAN* OPENS HIS CORNER NEWSSTAND.

GOT A PAPER FOR ME THIS MORNING, *FREDDY*?

SURE THING-- SOON AS I UNTIE THEM!

I ALWAYS CAN COUNT ON *GOOD-NATURED JOE* BEING MY FIRST CUSTOMER..!

THE DAILY GAZE
AND
The Evening Sta

HERE'S FIVE DOLLARS! KEEP THE CHANGE AS USUAL, *FREDDY*!

THANK YOU, *MR. JOE*! SURE LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO BE A *NICE DAY*!

BUT ON *THIS* PARTICULAR MORNING AS *FREDDY FREEMAN* GETS TO THE CORNER OF *OAK AND MAIN*...

HOLEY MOLEY! MY NEWSSTAND IS *GONE!* WHERE COULD IT BE?

I'LL HAVE TO SELL MY PAPERS ON THE STREET TILL I CAN GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

MOMENTS LATER, WHEN THE DAILY GAZETTE IS DELIVERED...

-OH! I WONDER WHY MY *GOOD-NATURED JOE* ISN'T HERE TO BUY MY FIRST COPY OF THE PAPER!

HOLY *MOLEY!* COULD THERE BE SOME *CONNECTION* BETWEEN THE STOLEN ELEVATORS AND MY MISSING NEWSSTAND?

THE DAILY GAZETTE

ELEVATORS STOLEN FROM CITY BUILDINGS

GAPING HOLES LEFT ATOP EMPTY ELEVATOR SHAFTS

THAT *AIRSHIP!* THAT'S WHAT STOLE THE ELEVATORS-- AND MAYBE MY *NEWSSTAND,* TOO!

THERE'S NO ONE ELSE AROUND WHO CAN DO ANYTHING ABOUT THOSE ELEVATOR-THIEVES, SO...

AT THE MENTION OF HIS HERO'S NAME, A MYSTIC BOLT OF LIGHTNING TRANSFORMS CRIPPLED NEWSBOY *FREDDY FREEMAN* INTO *THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY...*

CAPTAIN MARVEL JR!

NOW TO SEE WHAT THAT AIRSHIP IS UP TO!

I'LL KEEP IT FROM TAKING-- =UGHH!=

THE WAVY BEAM PULLING THE ELEVATOR CAB UP IS TOO STRONG!

THE AIRSHIP'S SPOTTED ME!

I COULD PULL BACK THE ELEVATOR IF I TRIED A LITTLE HARDER..

BUT I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA!

I'LL DUCK BEHIND THIS CHIMNEY AND WATCH-- AHH!

IT'S HOVERING OVER THAT NEW BUILDING NOW!-- ABOUT TO LIFT ITS ELEVATOR!

THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW!

SOON, AT THE *SMELTING PLANT* THAT SERVES AS HEADQUARTERS FOR A RING OF *METAL-ORE* SMUGGLERS...

ROBOT HOVERCRAFT APPROACHING WITH CARGO OF NINE ELEVATOR CABS! PREPARE FOR LANDING!

GOOD CATCH, MEN!

OPEN THE BUILDING'S LOADING HATCH!

NOW WE CAN MELT DOWN ALL THESE ELEVATORS AND SELL THEIR *RARE METAL!*

YEAH, THAT FOREIGN POWER WILL PAY PLENTY FOR THIS SPECIAL METAL TO BUILD ITS NEW SECRET WEAPON!

SUDDENLY, AN ELEVATOR DOOR BURSTS OPEN...

YOU'RE NOT MELTING DOWN ANY METAL..!

WHA--? *CAPTAIN MARVEL JR!*

RIGHT--AND THAT *NAME* CARRIES QUITE A *PUNCH!*

POW

YOU'LL NEVER GET *ME, JUNIOR!* NOT WHILE I'VE GOT MY *ROBOT HOVERCRAFT* AND ITS *DESTRUCT BEAMS!*

YOU DON'T HAVE IT ANYMORE!

INCREDIBLE! HE WIPED OUT ALL OUR CONTROLS WITH ONE SWIPE! GOT TO GET OUT OF--

--HERE...

HOLY MOLEY! A TAPPING COMING FROM INSIDE THAT ELEVATOR!

COULD IT BE ANOTHER ONE OF THE CROOKS?

TAP TAP TAP

AS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY PUSHES OPEN THE CONTRABAND ELEVATOR CAB..

WHY, IT'S GOOD-NATURED JOE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE -?

OH! CAPTAIN MARVEL JR! I WAS TRAPPED IN MY APARTMENT ELEVATOR AFTER MIDNIGHT LAST NIGHT, WHEN IT WAS LIFTED!

B-BUT.. WHERE WERE YOU GOING SO LATE AT NIGHT?! WHAT WERE YOU--

NO TIME FOR MORE EXPLANATIONS! I'M LATE!

AFTER CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. TURNS IN THE CROOKS AND CHANGES TO FREDDY FREEMAN...

HOLY MOLEY! THAT WASN'T LIKE GOOD-NATURED JOE... NOT EVEN TO THANK CAPTAIN MARVEL JR!

I WONDER WHY HE RAN OFF LIKE--

M-MR. JOE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON MY NEWSSTAND CORNER?

I HAD YOUR OLD NEWSSTAND TAKEN AWAY LAST NIGHT, FREDDY, BUT I WAS DELAYED BY A RUNAWAY ELEVATOR BEFORE I COULD SURPRISE YOU...

...WITH THIS BRAND-NEW PRE-FAB PLASTIC NEWSSTAND! JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD NEWSBOY!

GOSH, MR. JOE! THANKS A WHOLE LOT!

So I found that the reason Good-Natured Joe seemed to brush off Cpt. Mar. was because he was worried he'd be too late to pick up the plastic newsstand he'd bought me. Some people are just born to do nice things for other people.

Freddy Freeman

THE END

SUPERGIRL

A LEGION SUPER-HERO SPECIAL!

HA, HA! WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MAN, EH? YOU'RE INVULNERABLE TO EVERYTHING EXCEPT **MY** ARROWS! ONCE THIS ARROW STRIKES YOU, **MAN OF STEEL**... YOU'LL BECOME A **MAN OF PUTTY**... AND SOME FRAGILE, SOFT-EYED DAMSEL WILL TWIST YOU AROUND HER FINGERS EASILY! YOU'LL FALL MADLY IN LOVE!

SINCE **SUPERGIRL** IS THE MOST POWERFUL GIRL IN THE UNIVERSE, WHEN SHE DECIDES TO GET SOMETHING DONE, SHE IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO SUCCEED BECAUSE OF HER FANTASTIC SUPER-STRENGTH, FLYING ABILITY, SUPER-VISION AND OTHER AMAZING POWERS! BUT ONE DAY, THE MIGHTY **GIRL OF STEEL** DECIDES HER COUSIN **SUPERMAN** HAS BEEN A BACHELOR TOO LONG! ARE HER TREMENDOUS POWERS EQUAL TO THE TASK OF DRAGGING **SUPERMAN** TO THE ALTAR? IS SHE TRIUMPHANT IN THIS DIFFICULT UNDERTAKING, OR DOES SHE FAIL?--FOR SURPRISES GALORE, DON'T MISS THE MOST AMAZING TALE OF THEM ALL...

DON'T SHOOT, **CUPID!** **SUPERMAN** DOESN'T KNOW IT YET, BUT I'VE FIXED IT SO HE WILL MEET THE RIGHT GIRL AND GET MARRIED! LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME, PAL!

SUPERMAN'S Super-Courtship!

STORY: JERRY SIEGEL
ART: JIM MOONEY

ONE EVENING IN MIDVALE, AS LINDA LEE DANVERS, WHO IS SECRETLY **SUPERGIRL**, WATCHES A MOVIE ON TV...

I LOST HER! TOO LATE, I REALIZE...

DON'T CRY, LINDA. IT'S ONLY A **MOVIE!**

TOO LATE!.., ;MOAN;-- **TOO LATE!**

HOW PITIFUL! TH-THE BACHELOR IN THAT STORY DELAYED PROPOSING TOO LONG! HIS SWEETHEART HAS MARRIED **ANOTHER!** NOW HE'LL **NEVER** KNOW TRUE HAPPINESS! ;CHOKE;--I FEEL SO SORRY FOR HIM!

SUDDENLY, AS THEY ARE PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS...

WHAT HAPPENED?!

MY TELESCOPIC VISION REVEALS A LARGE PART OF MIDVALE IS WITHOUT LIGHTS! THERE'S A POWER-FAILURE! I'LL CHANGE SWIFTLY TO... **SUPERGIRL!**

SPRINGING INTO ACTION, SUPERGIRL LOCATES THE SOURCE OF THE BLACK-OUT.

MY SUPER-VISION HAS LOCATED A BREAK IN THE UNDERGROUND MAIN POWER CABLE! NOW TO TUNNEL DOWN AND REPAIR THE DAMAGE!

...AS THE GIRL FROM STEEL LIGHTS THE CABLE FUSE!

;GASP!; WHAT A GAL! **THOUSANDS OF VOLTS** ARE FLASHING THROUGH HER BODY, YET SHE'S UNHARMED!

HOORAY, **SUPERGIRL!**

I'LL FIX THIS QUICKLY!

COMPLETING THE REPAIR JOB, **SUPERGIRL** SPEEDS BACK INTO HER PARENTS' HOME, AND SWITCHES IDENTITIES AGAIN...

GOOD WORK, LINDA!

SHE'S NOT LISTENING, FRED! PROBABLY STILL THINKING ABOUT THAT SAD MOVIE!

MOM... DAD... I'M WORRIED! IT DOESN'T LOOK AS IF **SUPERMAN** IS EVER GOING TO MARRY EITHER LOIS LANE **OR** LANA LANG! I DON'T WANT HIM TO BE AN UNHAPPY BACHELOR **FOREVER!**

MAYBE IF I PLAYED CUPID, FIXED IT SO HE'D MEET THE RIGHT GIRL, HE'D GET MARRIED, AND NOT LIVE UNHAPPILY EVER AFTER, LIKE THAT SORROWFUL BACHELOR WE SAW IN THAT MOVIE!

THAT'S **OUT!**

DON'T INTERFERE IN **SUPERMAN'S** PERSONAL LIFE, LINDA! EVERY MAN PREFERS TO PICK OUT HIS **OWN** WIFE!

YOUR FATHER'S **RIGHT, LINDA!** NOW FORGET THIS NONSENSE! IT'S TIME TO GO TO BED!

I CAN'T FORGET IT!

AS LINDA DROPS OFF TO SLEEP, SHE DREAMS...

DARLING, I NEVER **REALLY** KNEW WHAT HAPPINESS WAS UNTIL I MARRIED **YOU,** THANKS TO **SUPERGIRL!**--OH, THE FLAMES WENT OUT IN THE FIREPLACE! I'LL REKINDLE THEM WITH MY **HEAT-VISION!**

SO SHE SLUMBERS, DREAMING OF WEDDED BLISS FOR **SUPERMAN..**

I'M GLAD YOU DON'T MIND MY BRINGING HOME A FRIEND FROM ANOTHER PLANET FOR DINNER, SWEETHEART!

YOU DIDN'T EXAGGERATE, **SUPERMAN!** YOUR WIFE IS THE BEST COOK IN THE UNIVERSE!

NEXT MORNING, LINDA ARRIVES AT A DECISION AND CHANGES TO **SUPERGIRL.** THEN.

I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ME TO MAKE MY DREAMS OF HAPPINESS FOR **SUPERMAN** COME TRUE! I'VE DECIDED ON THE PERFECT WIFE FOR **SUPERMAN!**...FIRST STOP THE **FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE!**

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AFTER A BRIEF VISIT INSIDE THE ARCTIC FORTRESS, THE **GIRL OF STEEL** EMERGES AND HURTLES SKYWARD AT FANTASTIC SPEED...

BACK INTO THE PAST, THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER!

LATER, AS **SUPERMAN** RETURNS TO THE FORTRESS FROM AN OUTER SPACE MISSION..

AN URGENT NOTE FROM **SUPERGIRL!**

Superman: Important! Join me in Ancient Troy on day indicated in Time Traveling Log Book! Supergirl

AND NOW LET'S VISIT ANCIENT **TROY** WHERE **SUPERGIRL** HAS FLOWN THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER...

THE GIRL I'VE CHOSEN FOR **SUPERMAN** IS SEATED IN A ROYAL BOX IN THE ARENA BELOW!

SHE IS...**HELEN OF TROY,** THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN OF ALL HISTORY! **SUPER MAN** AND I STUDIED, AND KNOW, EVERY ANCIENT LANGUAGE! MY RESEARCH REVEALED SHE VISITED TROY ON THIS DAY, LONG BEFORE SHE MARRIED KING MENELAUS OF SPARTA!

THOUGH **SUPERMAN** HAS FAILED TO CHANGE HISTORY BEFORE, I'M HOPEFUL THAT **LOVE** WILL NOW CONQUER THE IMPOSSIBLE! THE MIGHTIEST MAN AND THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN OF ALL TIME-- WOULD MAKE A MARVELOUS MATCH!

A--F-- **FLYING MAIDEN!**

AS COURT ADVISOR OF YOUR FATHER, KING TYNDAREUS, I WARN YOU.., BEWARE OF THIS STRANGE MAIDEN!

DISREGARD OLD RHONDOUS! WHO BE YOU?

LINDA LEE... FROM ANOTHER LAND! I'VE JOURNEYED HERE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MAN! HE WILL SOON ARRIVE!

I DOUBT IF HE BE MIGHTIER THAN THE WARRIOR-SUITORS WHO WILL BATTLE HERE TODAY, HOPING TO GAIN PRINCESS HELEN'S FAVOR!

RESPONDING TO THE **GIRL OF STEEL**'S NOTE, **SUPERMAN** SPEEDS THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER..

IS **SUPERGIRL** IN SOME TERRIBLE DANGER?

WHEN HE EMERGES INTO ANCIENT TROY AND LOCATES **SUPERGIRL** AT THE ARENA

WHAT'S THE EMERGENCY?

I DIDN'T SAY IT WAS AN **EMERGENCY!**...MEET LOVELY **HELEN OF TROY!**

QUICK AS THAT HELEN IS ATTRACTED TO **SUPERMAN**, RAMOUS AGITATES THE WARRIOR SUITORS.

THIS FLYING MORTAL MIGHT THWART MY EVIL AMBITIONS!

WARRIORS--DESTROY THIS STRANGER. LEST HE WIN THE PRINCESS' HEART!

DIE, FOOL! AWP!

H-HE CANNOT BE SLAIN!

DISAPPOINTED, FELLOWS?

;GASP!; THE WARRIOR'S STRENGTH AND WEAPONS ARE TO NO AVAIL, AGAINST **HIM!** QUICK, PATRONIUS! RELEASE THE **BEASTS OF DOOM!** THEY'LL FINISH THIS MYSTERIOUS STRANGER!

NEXT INSTANT...

CREATURES

ULP! TWO FIERCE A **MINOTAUR** AND A **UNICORN**... ARE RUNNING AMOK! THEY'RE ATTACKING THE SPECTATORS! SINCE **SUPERMAN** IS BUSY RIGHT NOW, I'LL HANDLE THIS MENACE!

BULL-HEADED, AREN'T YOU, **MINOTAUR**? AND AS FOR YOU, **UNICORN**, STOP HORSING AROUND!

THE FLYING MAIDEN IS SAVING US!

NOT ONLY IS LINDA LEE BEAUTIFUL, BUT SHE IS MORE POWERFUL THAN ACHILLES!

AFTER **SUPERGIRL** CAGES THE BEASTS AGAIN

I MUST MASK MY OWN TREACHERY!

TAKE THIS **SPEAR AND SLAY THAT DOG** FOR FREEING THE CREATURES WITHOUT PERMISSION!

I CAN'T KILL... THOUGH HE'S A **SCOUNDREL**, LET HIM GO!

THE DECISION IS NOT **YOURS**! IF I TURN MY THUMB **DOWN**, YOU MUST SLAY HIM! IF I **RAISE** MY **THUMB -- HE LIVES!** NOW TO DECIDE

SHE'S STARTING TO GESTURE. "THUMBS **DOWN**"!! WHAT'LL I DO??

LATER, TO THE ACCLAIM OF THE THRONG OF TROY...

BY ZEUS! A STRONG WIND IS TURNING MY THUMB... UP... AGAINST MY WILL!

PATRONIUS IS... SPARED!

THANKS TO MY SUPER-**BREATH'S** PRESSURE ON HELEN'S THUMB!

QUICK THINKING, **SUPERGIRL**!

ANNOUNCE:

FOR YOUR BEAUTY AND VALOR THIS DAY, WE PROCLAIM YOU... THE **TOAST OF TROY**!

WHAT A THRILLING SURPRISE! I-I'M SO **HONORED**!

BAH! BECAUSE OF THIS GIRL, EVERY ONE IS IGNORING **ME**!

PRESENTLY

GOODBYE AND DON'T COME BACK!

LET'S RETURN TO 1962!

MY SCHEME TO HAVE **SUPERMAN** FALL IN LOVE WITH **HELEN OF TROY** FAILED! BY A TWIST OF FATE, I TOOK AWAY FROM HER GLORY!

BACK THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER STREAKS THE SUPER-DUO...

I...GOOFED! BUT AM I DOWNHEARTED? **NO!** WILL I TRY AGAIN? **YES!**

AFTER THEY RETURN TO THEIR FORTRESS IN THE PRESENT...

THOSE FIGURINES GIVE ME A **GREAT IDEA!** THEY REPRESENT MEMBERS OF THE **LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES...**

...A CLUB OF THE DISTANT FUTURE TO WHICH **SUPERMAN** AND I BELONG! EACH OF ITS MEMBERS POSSESSES AT LEAST ONE SUPER-POWER! HMM... **SATURN GIRL,** WHEN GROWN INTO A WOMAN, WOULD MAKE A **WONDERFUL WIFE** FOR **SUPERMAN!** AND I'M JUST THE ONE TO HATCH A ROMANCE BETWEEN THOSE TWO!

PHANTOM GIRL

COSMIC BOY

SATURN GIRL

LIGHTNING LAD

SWIFTLY, THE **GIRL OF STEEL** CLEANS UP THE FORTRESS...

WELL DONE, **SUPERGIRL!**

THANKS! SOME DAY, WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, IT'LL BE YOUR **WIFE** WHO WILL DO YOUR HOUSE CLEANING!

MARRIED? NOT I! MY DUTY TO PROTECT EARTH AGAINST VARIOUS PERILS COMES FIRST! I'LL **NEVER** MARRY!

THAT'S WHAT **YOU** THINK! LITTLE DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S COOKING IN THIS EAGER LITTLE BRAIN OF MINE!

WHAT A FINE CLEANING JOB. IS THERE SOME WAY I CAN SHOW MY APPRECIATION?

YES. YOU CAN FOLLOW ME TO A LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES' PARTY, IN THE DISTANT FUTURE!

DEPARTING FROM THE FORTRESS, SUPERGIRL AND SUPERMAN STREAK INTO THE TIME-BARRIER...

WE'VE TRAVELLED 1000 YEARS INTO THE FUTURE SO FAR!

ODD! WHENEVER WE VISIT THE LEGION, WE EXIT FROM THE BARRIER ABOUT NOW, USUALLY! YET SHE'S FLYING ON..

AS THEY EMERGE FROM THE BARRIER...

IT'S TEN YEARS LATER! THE TEEN-AGED SUPER-HEROES ARE NOW... ADULTS! LIGHTNING LAD IS NOW LIGHTNING MAN!! AND A DUMMY FIGURE OF SANTA CLAUS IS SEATED INSIDE A MODEL ROCKET SHIP BESIDE THE CLUBHOUSE! IT'S... CHRISTMAS!

SHORTLY, INSIDE THE CLUBHOUSE...

YOU'RE COSMIC MAN.. FORMERLY COSMIC BOY! AND PHANTOM GIRL... NOW PHANTOM WOMAN... IS BESIDE YOU!

LIKE OUR CHRISTMAS TREE?

VERY PRETTY..

MINIATURE PLANETS ROTATE ABOUT THE TREE, REPRESENTING VARIOUS WORLDS DIFFERENT LEGIONNAIRES COME FROM!

SOON, AS GIFTS ARE UNWRAPPED...

CHOKE! A PHOTO OF MY KRYPTONIAN PARENTS AND ME!

A PHOTOGRAPH OF ME AND MY KRYPTONIAN PARENTS... ON THE SPACE-FRAGMENT WHERE I WAS BORN!

WE PHOTOGRAPHED THEM OFF OUR TIME-SCOPE SCREEN...

..TO GIVE TO YOU IF YOU CAME TO THIS PARTY!

WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK, COSMIC MAN! COME ON, SUPERGIRL!

IN OUR HASTE, WE FORGOT TO BRING GIFTS! WE'LL REMEDY THAT QUICKLY!

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE SUPER-DUO RETURNS...

WE LOCATED THIS ANTI-GRAVITY METEOR SWIFTLY, IN OUTER SPACE!

I'LL BREAK IT INTO PIECES AND PASS OUT FRAGMENTS!

AFTERWARD...

NOW THAT YOU'VE EACH PLACED A METEOR-CHUNK UNDER YOUR BELT, YOU NEED ONLY GIVE MENTAL COMMANDS, ACTIVATING IT, AND YOU'LL FLY! IT'LL REPLACE YOUR BULKY JETS!

GOOD!

NOW TO GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!"

LOOK, **SUPERMAN!** DID YOU SEE THIS GIFT PLAQUE?

IT SAYS: "IN GRATITUDE TO **SATURN WOMAN,** WHOSE MENTAL POWERS DROVE OFF SPACE MONSTERS ATTACKING EARTH!-- SIGNED, THE SCIENCE COUNCIL!"

THIS OTHER PLAQUE HONORS **SATURN WOMAN** FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND LOVELINESS!

SHE MUST BE **QUITE** A GAL!

STOP FLATTERING ME, OR YOU'LL TURN MY HEAD!

SATURN WOMAN! I NEVER DREAMED YOU'D GROW UP INTO SUCH A--SPECTACULAR BEAUTY!

HE **LIKES** HER! I-I'LL GIVE THEIR ROMANCE A NUDGE BY ATTACHING MISTLETOE TO THESE "SPACE TORPEDO" DARTS... THEN DO SOME EXPERT DECORATING SO THEY'LL BE STANDING UNDER THE MISTLETOE!

AS SUPERGIRL POINTS OUT THE MISTLETOE OVERHEAD, **SUPERMAN** SURRENDERS TO AN AGE-OLD CUSTOM

WHAT A CUTE COUPLE! I'LL BET HE'S FALLING MADLY IN LOVE WITH HER!... MY PLOT'S WORKING!

MMM... THIS IS NICE! I MUST KISS HER AGAIN!!

MOMENTS LATER...

NOW!--A **SECOND KISS,** UNDER **ANOTHER** MISTLETOE!... WEDDING BELLS, GET READY TO CHIME!!

HEY, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY KISSING MY WIFE **TWICE, SUPERMAN?**.. DON'T **OVERDO** THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!

YOUR **WIFE, LIGHTNING MAN?**.. -- ER, THIS PARTY HAS BEEN GREAT FUN, BUT I'VE GOT TO RETURN TO THE PAST NOW!

;MOAN; **SATURN WOMAN'S** M-MARRIED!'-- STUPID ME! WHY DIDN'T I TRY TO KINDLE A SPARK BETWEEN **SUPERMAN** AND **PHANTOM WOMAN** INSTEAD SHE'S PROBABLY SINGLE!'

AFTER THE SUPER-DUO RETURNS THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER TO THEIR FORTRESS IN 1962 A.D...

SUPERMAN, I HAVE A CONFESSION TO **MAKE!** I WANTED TO ARRANGE A HAPPY MARRIAGE FOR YOU.. I F-FAILED--BOTH TIMES...

IF I EVER **DID** MARRY..

...IT WOULD BE TO SOMEONE SUPER AND LOVABLE LIKE... **YOU!** WE CAN'T MARRY BECAUSE WE'RE COUSINS! THOUGH **COUSINS CAN MARRY** IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES HERE ON EARTH.. WE'RE BOTH FROM THE PLANET **KRYPTON,** WHERE THE MARRIAGE OF COUSINS WAS **UNLAWFUL!**

THERE ON THAT COSMIC MAP IS **KRYPTON** AND ITS **SUN!** AFTER **KRYPTON** EXPLODED, WE BOTH REACHED EARTH EVENTUALLY!

THE SOLAR RAYS OF EARTH'S YELLOW SUN GAVE US SUPER-POWERS! WAIT! THE SUPER **COMPUTER MACHINE**... IT'S GIVEN ME AN IDEA!

KRYPTON

OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

AS **SUPERGIRL** OPERATES THE MACHINE DEVICE..

HOORAY!-- SCREENING ALL POSSIBILITY-FACTORS, IT INDICATES A SUPER-WOMAN DUPLICATE OF **ME** EXISTS ON THE PLANET **STARYL!** I BEG YOU TO GO THERE, **SUPERMAN!** YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF TO DISCOVER IF SHE'S THE MATE FOR YOU!

STARYL

OFF FLASHES **SUPERMAN** TO A DISTANT SOLAR SYSTEM...

THE SECOND PLANET REVOLVING AROUND THAT BLUE SUN IS... **STARYL!** CAN I FIND A GIRL THERE AS WONDERFUL AS **SUPERGIRL?** I'LL SOON KNOW!

PRESENTLY, AS **SUPERGIRL** WATCHES EAGERLY FROM EARTH, WITH HER TELESCOPIC VISION..

HE FOUND HER! AN ADULT **SUPERGIRL**--A SUPERWOMAN! THEY'RE KISSING! IT'S A CASE OF LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT! I'M SO **HAPPY** FOR THEM! HMM... DUE TO THEIR SUPER SCIENTIFIC DEVICES, STARYLIANS PROBABLY KNOW EARTH LANGUAGES!

SHORTLY, ON THE PLANET STARYL..

COME TO EARTH WITH ME, LUMA LYNAI! I KNOW YOU'LL LOVE MY WORLD! IF YOU'RE HAPPY THERE, WE'LL WED!

I WANT TO BE WHEREVER **YOU** ARE, DARLING!

BUT AS **SUPERMAN** AND HIS BRIDE-TO-BE **STREAK INTO OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, SUPER GIRL,** WATCHING EAGERLY, SIGHTS...

GREAT SCOTT! SHE LOOKS WEAK...**AGONIZED!** I WONDER **WHY? SUPER-MAN'S** CATCHING HER!

SWIFTLY, **SUPERMAN** CARRIES LUMA BACK TO **STARYL...**

PUT ME DOWN! MY STRENGTH HAS RETURNED!...AND I'M NO LONGER IN PAIN! WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

ONLY ONE EXPLANATION...! YOU'RE A **SUPER-WOMAN** DUE TO THE SOLAR RAYS OF YOUR **ORANGE** SUN!

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I WAS UNSUPER WHEN I WAS A CHILD ON THE PLANET **KRYPTON**... WHICH HAD A **RED** SUN! IT WAS EARTH'S YELLOW SUN'S SOLAR RAYS WHICH LATER GAVE ME SUPER-POWERS!

BUT WHAT.?

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EARTH'S **YELLOW** SUN RAYS, WHICH MAKE **ME** SUPER-POWERFUL, AFFECT **YOU** DESTRUCTIVELY, THE WAY **GREEN KRYPTONITE'S** RAYS HARM ME!... YOU CAN NEVER... LIVE ON EARTH! I'LL STAY **HERE!**

NO! EARTH NEEDS YOU! GO!-- FORGET ME!

"I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU...

AS **SUPERMAN** RETURNS TO EARTH AND EXPLAINS TO **SUPERGIRL**...

:SOB.:--IT'S ALL MY **FAULT,** FOR T-TRYING TO RUSH YOU INTO MARRIAGE! I PROMISE **NEVER** TO MEDDLE IN YOUR ROMANTIC LIFE AGAIN! :SOB!:

PLEASE DON'T CRY....

MAYBE FATE HAD A PURPOSE IN FOILING YOUR THREE ATTEMPTS TO GET ME MARRIED OFF!

GEE! PERHAPS HIS FUTURE BRIDE WILL BE LOIS LANE OR LANA LANG AFTER ALL... COULD THAT BE FATE'S PLAN?

LATER, AFTER **SUPERGIRL** RETURNS HOME AND CHANGES TO HER OTHER **IDENTITY, SHE TELLS HER PARENTS** EVERYTHING...

INCREDIBLE!

HAVE YOU LEARNED YOUR LESSON, LINDA?

YES, I'M THROUGH PLAYING **CUPID, FOREVER!**

SHORTLY, IN LINDA'S BEDROOM, AS SHE STUDIES HER HISTORY HOMEWORK...

QUEEN CLEOPATRA! GOODNESS, THERE WAS A WOMAN WHO HAD--**EVERYTHING!** BEAUTY... MAGNETIC CHARM... ALLURE! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF HAVING **SUPERMAN** MARRY **HER?**

JEEPERS! MAYBE...

BUT THEN... OH-OH! THERE I GO AGAIN! CLEOPATRA WILL HAVE TO BE CONTENT WITH MARK ANTONY AND JULIUS CAESAR! I PROMISED NOT TO INTERFERE IN **SUPERMAN'S** LOVE-LIFE AGAIN! I'LL KEEP MY WORD!

ANCIENT HISTORY

THE END

SANDMAN

DREAMS in DOOM

Co-starring SANDY THE GOLDEN BOY!

by JOE SIMON and JACK KIRBY

YOU'RE WONDERING WHERE THIS NIGHTMARE COMES FROM. THESE FIGHTING DREAMS THAT POUNCE ON US OUT OF THE DARKNESS. EVERY TIME I CLOSE MY EYES I HEAR SCREAMS AND SEE OUR CHILDREN'S

THEY HAVE BEEN BLAMED ON MANY AT BOTTOM, TOO MUCH VIOLENCE AN UNEASY CONSCIENCE. ..ON A TELEVISED AND ONE CARTOON. BUT HERE IS A CARTOONIST'S STORY IN WHICH THE SANDMAN AND HIS YOUNG PARTNER, SANDY, TACKLE EVIL BEYOND THE REACH OF THE RIGHT WING'S EXPLOITS AGAINST IN... AND LEGAL ART... THEIR NIGHTMARES TO THE E... AN ANALYSIS OF THE RIGHT AND AT THE RISK OF THEIR LIVES, RESCUE AN INNOCENT VICTIM FROM "DREAMS OF DOOM"!

I WON'T BE NEEDING THE CAR TODAY, ANTOINE.

VERY WELL MISTER ALVIN!

...AND ARE THE SURROUNDINGS OF ONE OF AMERICA'S RICHEST MEN!

...A MAN IN UNDISPUTED POSSESSION OF ALL THE LUXURY MONEY CAN BUY... A MAN FROM WHOM YOU MIGHT EXPECT TO BE FREE OF CARE AND WORRY!

MONROE ALVIN IS THE MOST MISERABLE OF HUMAN BEINGS, ...PREY OF A TERRIBLE FEAR KNOWN TO MANY TIMID CHILDREN, BUT FEW ADULTS

MONROE ALVIN IS

YOUR BICARBONATE OF SODA, SIR!

PUT IT DOWN, HUMBERT, I'LL TAKE IT PRESENTLY!

IN THE DREARY HOURS OF MIDNIGHT, WHEN HE CAN PUT OFF SLEEP NO LONGER.

DON'T TURN OUT ANY LIGHTS. I'M GOING TO SLEEP, BUT NOT FOR LONG!

H'I 'OPE YOU SLEEP BETTER THAN LAST NIGHT, SIR! THOSE 'ORRIBLE DREAMS H'ARE MYKIN' YOU H'ILL, SIR!

HIS EYES HAVE HARDLY CLOSED WHEN HIS BRAIN BEGINS TO CHURN WITH THE FEARSOME FANTASIES!

NO! NO!

THERE! THERE! MISTER ALVIN! H'EVERYTHING'S HALL RIGHT!

NO! NO!

THOSE AWFUL DREAMS! I'LL GO MAD! THE DOCTORS SAY THEY'LL EVENTUALLY DISAPPEAR.. BUT THEY'LL WEAR ME OUT FIRST!

DOCTORS, BAH! I'LL TRY SOMEONE ELSE! I'LL CALL IN THAT FELLOW WHO GIVES BAD DREAMS TO CRIMINALS AND KEEPS THEM AWAY FROM HONEST MEN!

I'M GOING TO CALL THE SANDMAN!

THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON, WESLEY DODDS SOCIETY PLAYBOY, FINDS A STRANGE MESSAGE IN THE "AGONY" COLUMN OF A NEWSPAPER.

SANDMAN, IF IT'S TRUE THAT YOU NEVER REFUSE TO AID THOSE IN TROUBLE, PLEASE CONTACT ME AT ONCE... MONROE ALVIN.

MONROE ALVIN... THE MULTI-MILLIONAIRE! WHAT COULD HE WANT OF THE SANDMAN?

ALMOST AT THE SAME MOMENT, DODDS LITTLE PAL, SANDY HAWKINS, HEARS AN UNUSUAL RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT!

AT THIS TIME, WE INTERRUPT THE PROGRAM TO MAKE A SPECIAL REQUEST IN BEHALF OF MISTER MONROE ALVIN, WHO IS SEEKING THE SANDMAN!!

HEAR THAT, WES? YOU'RE BEING PAGED!

WHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY, THE MENTAL OF THE SANDMAN [illegible] A TREMOR OF FEAR!

ALVIN IS SQUAWKING FOR THE SANDMAN, SO WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST!... TONIGHT!

OKAY! THE SANDMAN'S POISON, BUT SO ARE WE!

AGAIN, NIGHT DRAWS ITS OBSCURE CURTAIN OVER THE CITY. AND TWO LITHE FIGURES SLIP FROM WES DODDS' HOME... INTO THE SHADOWS

SOON TO FIND OUT WHAT SORT OF TROUBLE ALVIN HAS THAT MONEY CAN'T FIX!

AS LONG AS IT'S EXCITING.. I WON'T COMPLAIN!

ADVENTURE IS WHAT I CRAVE!

ALL LIFE IS ADVENTURE, IF YOU LIVE IT RIGHT!

LATER AT ALVINS ESTATE.

WE COULD RING THE DOORBELL, BUT SOMETIMES IT PAYS TO BE CARE-FUL!

I'LL SAY IT DOES! LOOK, SANDMAN!

IN THE MAIN HALL OF THE MANSION!

BUT THIS IS PREPOSTEROUS! I NEVER COMMITTED A CRIME 'N MY LIFE!

THE CAMERA DON'T LIE, CHUMP! ... AN' IT'LL TELL THE WORLD IF YOU DON'T COME ACROSS WITH THE MILLION SMACKERS!

THE SANDMAN!!

TORCHY GROGAN AND BUGS BARON! IT'S ALWAYS NICE TO MEET OLD FRIENDS!

CANDY TEARS INTO THE ATTIC!

DROP THAT GUN, BUGS!

I'VE GOT TO STOP THIS!

THE ROOM IS PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS AS ALVIN TURNS OUT THE LIGHTS!

A BLACKOUT! BE CAREFUL, SANDY!

COME ON, BUGS! NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO SCRAM!

WHAT'S THE IDEA, ALVIN? WE WERE TRYING TO HELP YOU!

I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP NOW! MY TROUBLE IS ALL STRAIGHTENED OUT!

AW, GEE! JUST WHEN WE WERE STARTING TO HAVE FUN!

[illegible] ALVIN'S [illegible] COUNTER-ACTIVITIES, THE TWO GOLDEN [illegible] SWAGGERED OFF DART FROM THE PARK!

IMAGINE HIM GOING TO ALL THAT TROUBLE TO REACH YOU AND THEN GIVING YOU THE OLD BRUSH-OFF!

HE NEEDS US, SANDY... ONLY NOW HE'S AFRAID TO ADMIT IT! LOOK AT THESE PHOTOS! GRAB 'EM!

GOSH! ONE OF 'EM SHOWS ALVIN STANDING OVER A DEAD MAN WITH A SMOKING PISTOL! AND THAT'S BUGS BARON RIFLING THE VICTIM'S POCKETS!!!

RIGHT! BOTH PHOTOS SHOW ALVIN COMMITTING MURDERS WITH BUGS, TORCHY AND ANOTHER MAN AS HIS ACCOMPLICES! ..... ODD SORT OF WATCH CHARM THAT OTHER FELLOW'S WEARING! LOOKS LIKE A STAR IN A CIRCLE!

THEY'LL BE [illegible] AND DANNY DEEVER 'IN THE MORNIN'

MAYBE CARLOS HERE, CAN GIVE US A LEAD!

DA-DE-DA-DE-DA-DE-DA SO! DE-DA

CAN'T MOVE! CAN'T CRY!

BLIMEY! 'IT'S THE SANDMAN!

DON'T BE ALARMED! WE JUST WANT SOME INFORMATION ON MISTER ALVIN'S TROUBLE

H'IT'S THOSE H'AWFFUL DREAMS, SANDMAN! 'E'S BEEN 'AVIN' THEM H'EVER SINCE 'IS H'ACCIDENT!

ACCIDENT ??

THE FIRST O' THE MONTH H'IT WAS! 'E WENT WALKIN' AND GOT 'IT BY AN AUTO! NOBODY KNEW ABOUT H'IT TILL 'E CAME 'OME FROM THE 'OSPITAL!

H'AMNESIA... ...THAT'S WHUT 'E 'AD!

'IS MEMORY'S H'ALL RIGHT NOW, SIR, H'EXCEPT FOR THE TOIME 'E WAS SICK. BUT 'E DREAMS O' KILLIN' FOLKS AN' GOIN' TO THE H'ELECTRIC CHAIR! DOCTOR HOAK, A PSYCHIATRIST, H'IS TRYIN' TO CURE 'IM!

THAT'S VERY HELPFUL. THANKS, PAL!

ALVIN HAS A GUILTY CONSCIENCE, ALL RIGHT! .... WHAT NOW?

WE'RE GOING TO CHECK WITH THAT HOSPITAL!

LATER OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT MISTER ALVIN WAS BROUGHT HERE BY A MAN WHOSE NAME WE DIDN'T GET! . . IT WAS ON THE THIRD OF THE MONTH, SIR...

THE THIRD? ARE YOU SURE IT WASN'T THE FIRST? ... I SEE! THANK YOU..

ALVIN DIDN'T REACH THE HOSPITAL TILL TWO DAYS AFTER HE DISAPPEARED! I'VE AN IDEA THOSE TWO DAYS HOLD THE KEY TO THIS PUZZLE!

I GUESS DOCTOR HOAK IS OUR NEXT MOVE, EH?

A CURIOUS DREAM DISTURBS THE SLUMBER OF A PROMINENT PSYCHIATRIST.....

WHAT A DREAM! ... I... WHA-? I MUST STILL BE DREAMING!

WE'RE REAL, DOCTOR HOAK! WE CAME TO SEE YOU ABOUT MONROE ALVIN!

YOU STARTLED ME WITH YOUR SUDDEN APPEARANCE! EXCUSE ME, WHILE I ANSWER THE PHONE!

WHAT A COINCIDENCE! THAT WAS ALVIN! HE SAID HIS NIGHTMARE HAD STOPPED! HE WANTS ME TO COME RIGHT OVER

SANDY AND I WILL GO ALONG IF YOU DON'T MIND!

LATER, THE SANDMAN, SANDY AND NOAH ARRIVE AT ALVIN'S [illegible] HOME!

I'M SORRY I WAS SO RUDE BEFORE, SANDMAN!

YOU HAD GOOD CAUSE TO BE UPSET AT THE TIME, SIR!

I'VE JUST AWAKENED FROM A DREAM IN WHICH IT SEEMED YOU SAVED ME FROM ALL MY DIFFICULTIES! IT GAVE ME NEW HOPE!

DREAMS LIKE THAT OFTEN COME TRUE!

MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE.

THE DOC, THE SANDMAN, AND THAT BRAT, SANDY, ARE IN THERE WITH ALVIN!

WHADDA WE CARE! WE GOT GATS, AIN'T WE?

A SECOND LATER!

BE NICE OR WE'LL CHOP YA DOWN!

NO FIGHTING YET, SANDY! THERE ARE OTHERS IN DANGER BESIDES US!

OKAY! BUT I DON'T LIKE IT!

WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO WITH US?

I'LL TELL YA, SANDMAN!

WE'RE GONNA HAUL YOU BOTH UP THE FIREPLACE CHIMNEY AND LEAVE YA HANGIN' HEAD DOWN! I'M COUNTING ON THE COAL GAS TA FINISH YA OFF! IF YA GET LOOSE, YOU'LL FALL INTA THE FIRE ANYWAY!

THE SADISTIC BUGS BAER IS AS COLDBLOODED AS HIS WORD! AMID ALVIN'S PROTESTS, THE SANDMAN AND SANDY ARE SOON SUSPENDED BY THEIR FEET IN THE MACHINE FIREPLACE!

WHAT A TERRIBLE WAY TO GO OUT! I WOULDN'T CARE SO MUCH IF IT WEREN'T FOR SANDY!

THIS HEAT! IT'S AWFUL!

IN DESPERATE MOMENTS.. THE SANDMAN'S NIMBLE MIND REACHES QUICK DECISIONS.. HIS FREE FINGERS FUMBLE FOR HIS WIREMOON GUN!!

TAKING UNTO HIS A.W. THE SANDMAN'S WRECKING HOOFS ITSELF IN THE CENTER LOG ABOVE THIS AUTOMATIC RECOILING WIRE DRAWS HIM SWIFTLY UPWARD!

THE SANDMAN ONCE ON TOP TAKES OFF HIS LOOSENED BONDS AND FREES THE HALF-SMOTHERED BOY UP AFTER HIM!

TAKE A DEEP BREATH, KID... ...BECAUSE WE'RE GOING THROUGH IT AGAIN... IT'S THE ONE THING THEY WON'T BE EXPECTING!

ALL RIGHT IF YOU SAY SO, PAL!

BELOW IN THE GREAT HALL OF THE MANSION...

THESE BONDS MAKE UP THE REST OF THE MILLION! NOW GIVE ME THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS!

SOME OF THEM, MONEY BAGS..... AN' WE'LL KEEP SOME IN CASE WE NEED MORE DOUGH!

WITHOUT WARNING TWO HUGE BOOTED FEET BURST AN OPENING THE SIDING FROM THE GREAT FIREPLACE!

DID I HEAR SOMEONE PAGING SANDY CLAUS?

SHOOT! TRICKY CRACK! IT'S THE SANDMAN!!

I'VE MESSED AROUND ENOUGH WITH YOU HOODLUMS! THIS IS YOUR LAST DUSTING OFF!

THE SANDMAN AND SANDY QUICKLY SUBDUE THEIR ADVERSARIES AND BIND THEM TIGHTLY!

THE TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS GLARE AT HOAK: [illegible] AS BOTH MOVE WITH LIGHTNING SWIFTNESS!

NICE WORK, SANDMAN!! PERMIT ME TO CONGRATULATE YOU!

WHAT?

SEE HERE! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

IT'S YOUR WATCH CHARM, HOAK! I SHOULD HAVE NOTICED IT BEFORE!

THIS IS THE WATCH CHARM WORN BY ONE OF THE MEN IN THE BLACKMAIL PHOTOS! YOU ARE THAT MAN, HOAK!

HOW DARE YOU ACCUSE ME?

WHY, THAT EXPLAINS THE MISSING TWO DAYS! TWO DAYS... IN WHICH YOU SNATCHED ALVIN FROM THE SCENE OF THE AUTO ACCIDENT AND IN HIS STATE OF SHOCK AND AMNESIA, YOU USED HIM TO POSE FOR THOSE CRIME PICTURES!

YOU!... PRETENDING YOU WERE TRYING TO CURE ME... AND ALL THE TIME TRYING TO RUIN ME!

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED THAT MILLION BUCKS, YOU OLD GOAT!

DON'T GET FRESH, YOU CROOK!

I THINK I'LL DONATE THAT MILLION TO A WORTHIED CAUSE! WHAT DO YOU THINK SANDMAN??

OUR COUNTRY IS AT WAR, MISTER ALVIN! ANYTHING YOU CONTRIBUTE WILL GIVE US MORE PLANES AND TANKS!

HE-HUM! WE DIDN'T GET MUCH SLEEP LAST NIGHT, DID WE?

NO... BUT HAD WE BEEN ASLEEP, JUSTICE MIGHT HAVE BEEN CHEATED OF A BUNCH OF SLICK CRIMINALS!

ANOTHER STORY OF

SANDMAN

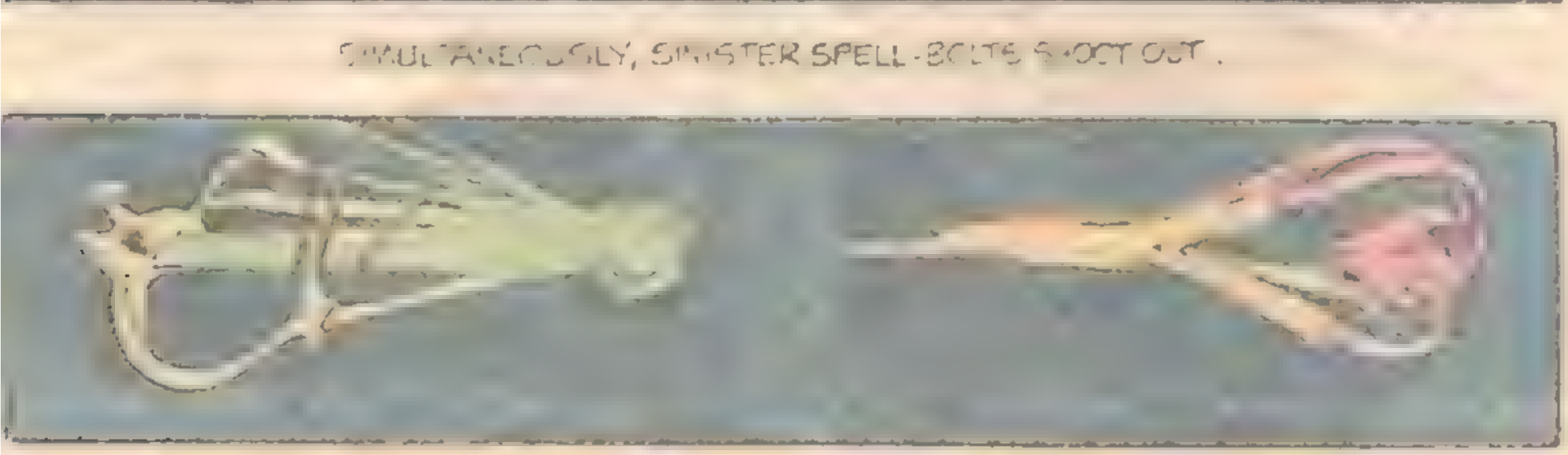
AND SANDY

IS COMING YOUR WAY SOON IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF

ADVENTURE

PROLOGUE

THE CAUSES OF THE CONFLICT...


SIMULTANEOUSLY, SINISTER SPELL-BOLTS SHOOT OUT.
COLLIDING WITH FORCE UNIMAGINABLE, THEY FLARE OUT IN AN OVERWHELMING HOLOCAUST

SUDDENLY THERE IS NOTHING---- THE BOOK HAS MYSTERIOUSLY VANISHED!

WHAT MAGNETIC POLE REVERSAL? UNKNOWN EVEN TO THE MYSTICAL FIGHTERS, THE FORCE OF THEIR SPELL-BOLTS COLLISION WAS SO GREAT THAT IT PIERCED DIMENSIONAL BARRIERS...

...INTO THE UNIVERSE OF THE PLANET EARTH ...AND OVER THE STREETS OF BOOKER-BOOKER CITY....

...STRIKING THE PERSON OF SMALL-TIME CROOK, "SAD" JACK DOLD...

HUH--WHAT WAS THAT?!

MUST HAVE BEEN MY IMAGINATION! I BETTER HURRY UP OR THE GANG WILL BE SORE AT ME! THIS IS MY FIRST JOB WITH 'EM AND I DON'T WANNA MESS IT UP!

FOR THE MOMENT, SAD JACK DOLD IS UNAWARE THAT HE HAS BEEN "DARED ON"...

BUT IT WILL BE ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL HIS MAGIC MIGHT COMES TO THE FORE AND IN CLUES... WILDCAT AND THE SPECTRE!

FRANK FRAZETTA'S DEATH DEALER

FINISHED!

MY TIMING WAS OFF AGAIN-- MY FIST JUST GRAZED HIM!

WILDCAT!

NOT FAST ENOUGH TO DODGE THIS-- UH!

CAUGHT FLAT-FOOTED...

OKAY, YOU TWO -- GET 'EM UP! ALL RIGHT, WILDCAT... WE'LL TAKE OVER NOW!

MR. WILD

AFTER SECRETLY CHANGING HIS NAME TO DR. WILDCAT, A MIGHTY MITE OF A MAN...

TWO PUNK THUGS ROBBING A GROCERY STORE AND I WASN'T ABLE TO HANDLE THEM. THIRD TIME IN A MONTH THIS HAS HAPPENED! ME -- THE EX-HEAVY WEIGHT BOXING CHAMPION OF THE WORLD!

IN THE OLD DAYS I'D HAVE HAD THOSE CROOKS ALL WRAPPED UP FOR THE POLICE!

HMMM.... LOOK AT THAT! FATHER TIME IS CATCHING UP WITH ME!

AWWW, WHAT AM I THINKING! I'VE STILL GOT PLENTY OF GOOD YEARS LEFT!

DON'T KNOW WHY I'M SO JITTERY THOUGH!

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH ME? I SHOULDN'T BE SMOKING... I NEVER HAVE! I KEEP THESE CIGARETTES HERE FOR MY GUESTS! WHEN IN DOING THINGS WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT!

THIS IS GETTING TO BE TOO MUCH! I CAN'T WAIT TILL TOMORROW---I HAVE TO GO OUT ON PATROL AGAIN TONIGHT!

JUMPING ON THE STARTER OF HIS CONCEALED CATOCYCLE WILDCAT ROARS DOWN THE STREETS AND ALLEYS OF THE CITY...

I'LL KEEP GOING TILL I FIND SOMETHING--EVEN IF I HAVE TO RIDE INTO THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK!

IN THE FELINE FURY [illegible] CATS CAN [illegible] FOR [illegible] AND ONE IS AN [illegible] AT THE KNICKER-BOCKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM...

I'M LATE--THE OTHERS MUST BE INSIDE--STEALIN' THOSE STUFFED, EXTINCT BIRDS FOR SOME GUY'S PRIVATE COLLECTION! I BETTER TAKE ANOTHER LOOK--SEE WHERE I GO TO SWIPE AN OAHU-A-K-I-A-L-O-A... WHATEVER THAT IS...

THUS, IN HIS SCOURING SEARCH OF THE CITY, WILDCAT CHANCES ONTO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

THAT FLASH--SPOTLIGHTING A CRIME IN THE MAKING!

LIKE A SILENT CAT, THE FELINE [illegible] FACES ACROSS THE MUSEUM THRESHOLD--AND...

HEY--LOOK!

WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE? NEITHER OF THEM IS THE ONE I SPOTTED OUTSIDE!

WILDCAT?! WHAT'S HE DOIN' HERE?

CATS LIKE TO CAPTURE BIRDS--SO HERE'S A BIG ONE FOR YA, WILDCAT!

WHUMP

UH...WASN'T QUICK ENOUGH AGAIN...IT CAUGHT ME ON THE SHOULDER!

HA, HA! THAT'S GIVIN' HIM THE BIRD--AL, BABY!

POW

HAVE TO RELY ON MY LEFT--- GOOD TO SEE IT'S THE SAME "OLD RELIABLE!"

WONDER WHY THEY KEEP THESE SMALL EXTINCT BIRDS AWAY FROM THE LARGE ONES? NOW WHICH ONE IS....

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT...KAYOED 'EM BOTH WITH JUST TWO PUNCHES!

GULP! WHAT'S THAT SHADOW?

MEANWHILE, IN "SAD" JACK'S ROOM...

BROK

I KNEW THERE WAS SOMEONE ELSE HERE.. THE ONE WITH THE FLASHLIGHT!

NO-NO! STOP!!

UHHH-- WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? CAN'T MOVE!

HE STOPPED SHORT-- JUST LIKE I--

HE'S AS STIFF AS THE BIRDS AROUND HERE...

NOW HE'S EVEN STIFFER!

WONDER HOW THE REST OF THE GANG IS MAKIN OUT?

KRASH

COME ON, SLOWPOKES! LET'S GET GOIN'!

WHAT HAPPENED TO WILDCAT?

I TOCK CARE O' HIM.... REAL GOOD!

TOO BAD YUH COULDN'T SEE IT! I FLATTENED WILDCAT WITH ONE PUNCH!

AWW COME OFF IT! GIVE IT TO US STRAIGHT

IT WAS LIKE THIS, SEE! HE-UH-WAS COMIN' AT ME AS I STOOD THERE-- SUDDENLY I SWUNG MY FIST---

--AN' OUT HE WENT!

HUH? WHAT HAPPENED?

;OWWW! ;CUTELL ME!

YOU SWUNG OVER THERE-- AND I GOT HURT OVER HERE! HOW D YOU DO IT?

I CALL IT-- MY MYSTERY PUNCH!

AND I AIN'T KIDDIN'! I KNOW LEAVIN' GATEWAY CITY WOULD DO WONDERS FOR ME!

FROM NOW ON, "BAD JACK" YOU'RE GONNA BE OUR STRONG-ARM MAN! WITH THAT PUNCH OF YOURS WE CAN'T MISS!

THINK OF THE MONEY WE'LL MAKE OFF YOU, TOO, STUPID!

HEY, LISTEN TO THIS--"MILLION DOLLAR GATE EXPECTED AT TITLE FIGHT!"

YEAH, IT'S THE FINAL FIGHT OF THE **HEAVYWEIGHT ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT** TO REPLACE THE CHAMP WHO GOT WOUNDED IN VIET NAM AND HADDA RETIRE!

WHY DON'T WE GRAB THAT MILLION? I CAN HANDLE THE GUARDS!

NEXT NIGHT AT KNICKERBOCKER STADIUM -- THE USUAL CELEBRITY-INTRODUCTIONS BEFORE THE START OF THE FIGHT...

...LET'S HEAR IT LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -- FOR THE RETIRED -- UNDEFEATED -- HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF YESTERYEAR -- TED GRANT!

BUT THEN, AS THE FIGHT STARTS...

COULDN'T DISAPPOINT MY OLD FANS -- BUT NOW THAT'S OVER, I'LL SLIP OUT OF HERE IN THE DARKNESS...

MEANWHILE, AT THE MAIN BOX OFFICE...

OKAY, "SAD JACK" SHOW YOUR STUFF!

IF I GOT THINGS FIGGERED OUT NOW, I'LL SHOW 'EM PLENTY!

EVERYBODY CLEAR OUTTA HERE -- THIS IS A STICK-UP!

I'LL PLAY IT FOR LAUGHS!

GUARDS, DROP YOUR GUNS -- AND STAND ON YOUR HANDS!

ALL RIGHT, YOU -- KICK OVER THE MILLION BUCKS!

WHADDA YA MEAN, YA GOT ONLY A COUPLA GRAND IN THE TILL?

CAN'T GET DOWN!

CAN'T REACH MY GUN!

HA, HA, HA!

FROM NOW ON I'M KNOWN AS "HAPPY JACK!"

JUST THEN, TED GRANT EXITS FROM THE STADIUM..

YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME! MOST OF THAT MILLION CAME FROM TV AND TICKETS SOLD DAYS AGO! ALL I'VE GOT HERE ARE TONIGHT'S RECEIPTS!

WHAT'S GOING ON-- IT'S THAT SAME MUSEUM GANG!

WELL SLIP IT OUT TO US ANYWAY!

SLIPPING BACK INTO THE DARK INTERIOR, TED SHEDS HIS CLOTHES AND SPRINGS OUT AS THE FELINE FURY...

OOPS. LET'S GET GOIN' -- WILDCAT AGAIN?!

BACK TO FINISH WHAT I STARTED AT BEFORE.

BEFORE THE SURPRISED VILLAINS CAN REACT.

WILDCAT!

THIS IS THE GUY WHO STIFFENED ME BEFORE-- I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM FIRST!

I'M PARALYZED-- IN MID-AIR!

HOW DOES HE DO IT?

HA, HA!

THIS IS GETTIN' BETTER AN' BETTER! I'M ACTUALLY KEEPIN' HIM UP IN THE AIR WITH MY THOUGHTS!

I GOT ME A NIFTY IDEA GANG! TAKE WILDCAT ASIDE!

MAN--IS THAT WILDCAT WILD!

JACK HOLTA BE USIN' A GIMMICK!

WHAT I'M GONNA DO'LL PUT ME ON THE FRONT PAGE BACK IN GATE-WAY CITY!

GOTTA DO SOME HARD THINKIN' SO EVERYONE HERE HEARS ME...

A BELLOWS FIGHT PAINT-

YOU FIGHTERS GET OVER IN THAT CORNER! HARVEY--YOU BE REFEREE. AL YOU ACT AS ANNOUNCER FOR THE TV WATCHERS!

STOP THE FIGHT! EVERYBODY STAY PUT!

YOU TV PEOPLE KEEP ON SHOWIN' THIS!

I'LL MAKE LIKE THOSE REGULAR ANNOUNCERS...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS FOR THE FIRST TIME TOGETHER IN THE RING, WILDCAT VERSUS "HAPPY" JACK DOLO!

I'M GIVIN' YA A SPORTIN' CHANCE WILDCAT; I'LL UNFREEZE ONE OF YOUR ARMS AND LET YOU FIGHT WITH IT!

SOME CHANCE! I CAN'T MOVE THE REST OF MY BODY!

HA HA! YOU MISSED BY A MILE! YOU'VE HAD YOUR TURN, WILDCAT!

POUR'S ON VENTAL POWER LIKE MOLTEN LEAD...

SCATTER, WILDCAT!

8--9--O--AND OUT!

FIRST TIME--- ANYONE HAD ME--ON THE--CANVAS--

WITHOUT A SINGLE PUNCH LANDING, THE MATCH ENDS!

GIMME THAT MIKE, A.L! THANKS FOR WATCHIN', FOLKS--- EVEN IF YOU HAD TO! HA HA!

SOON AS I MAKE MY GETAWAY, FOLKS, YOU CAN ALL MOVE AGAIN!

AS THE P.A. MIC FELTON DEMANDS...

WHETHER WHY THE COPS NEVER SHOWED?

WHEN I TOLD THE CROWD TO STAY PUT, I MUST'VE ALSO MADE EVERYONE WATCHIN' THE FIGHT ON TV--INCLUDIN' THE FUZZ---DO THE SAME!

AS THE MYSTIC MENTAL CRIMINAL HAD PROCLAIMED HIS SAFE DEPARTURE IS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY THE STILL AUDIENCE COMING TO LIFE! AN EMBARRASSED HUSH GRADUALLY FALLS AS THEY STARE AT THE SPECTACLE OF A HERO IN THE MIDST OF GUARDING LIGHTS, SUFFERING THE DISMAL DREGS OF DEFEAT!

13

MENACE of the MYSTIC MASTERMIND"

STARRING JIM Gaffal Governor—

The SPECTRE!

IN THE DARKEST DEPTHS OF DESPAIR, IN THE SUFFOCATING SILENCE OF BLIND OBLIVION, THE SPECTRE AWAITS HIS RESURRECTION THAT ONE AND ONLY TIME AND ONE CAN END WITH DOOM.

SPECTRE WITH THE HARBINGER OF HOPE, THE ONLY COLD, LIFELESS STARE OF ROY LATHAM'S BLUE BEFORE WITNESS TO THE SHUDDERING SHADOW OF...THE SPECTRE!

SPECTRE... I'VE A CAUTIONARY FOR SOME EYES.

THERE IS MUCH THAT NEEDS BE EXPLAINED, BUT THIS IS NOT THE PROPER PLACE! COME WITH ME...

THAT NIGHT, WHEN I WENT TO GET MY BEST FRIEND, TEX BAILEY, HIS HAND BLASTS GOT HIS FIRST!

--IT WAS LIKE THAT CROOK'S MIND FORCED ME TO DO WHAT HE WANTED! I WAS COMPLETELY HELPLESS! I SEEM TO BE HELPLESS EVERYTHING NOW! HOW DO YOU GET THERE ANYHOW?

* IN CERTAIN GATEWAY CITY POLICE DETECTIVE-CAPTAIN.

WITHIN MY HUMAN SELF* I WAS WATCHING THE BOXING MATCH ON TELEVISION WHEN THAT VOICE CAME ACROSS ORDERING EVERYONE TO REMAIN STILL!

A MOMENT...

"HAPPY" JACK WAS THE ONE WHO GOT THIS DOUGH FOR US BUT HE'S STILL DUMB ENOUGH TO SETTLE FOR ONLY 10% OF THE LOOT!

HERE, "HAPPY"-- THIS IS FOR YOU!

INSTANTLY SENSING MYSTICAL FORCES, I DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE, BUT DISCOVERED I TOO WAS INCAPABLE OF MOVEMENT!

WHEN THE AUDIENCE WAS RELEASED I CAME TO YOUR AID IMMEDIATELY!

ONLY A COUPLA HUNDRED AS MY SHARE?! I'M FED UP WITH YOU GUYS! I'M GETTIN' OUTA HERE! WHO NEEDS YOU ANYWAY?

HEY, DON'T GET ALL SHOOK UP OVER IT! YOU CAN HAVE HALF...

WHO NEEDS DOUGH? I CAN HAVE ANYTHIN' I WANT JUST BY THINKIN' OF IT! THINK THAT OVER--LIKE THE "THINKER" STATUE--TILL AFTER I BUG OUTTA HERE! HA, HA!

...TED GRANT'S APARTMENT...

IT'S UP TO YOU NOW, SPECTRE, TO GO AFTER THIS MYSTICAL CROOK...

I WILL..AS SOON AS HE TURNS ON HIS POWERS AGAIN - ...AH! RECEIV.NG THEM LOUD AND CLEAR NOW!

WAIT FOR ME!

AWW, HE'S OUT OF HEARING!

I COULDN'T HELP ANYWAY!

IN LESS THAN A HUMAN HEARTBEAT, THE SPIRIT SLEUTH HONES IN ON HIS QUARRY...

HE IS NOT HERE--HE MUST HAVE JUST DEPARTED! ALL THAT REMAINS ARE THESE HELPERS!

FEELS SO GOOD TO MOVE AGAIN, LET'S USE HIM FOR TARGET PRACTICE!

THE SPECTRE--HOW'D HE FIND OUT ABOUT US?!

BAM!

BAM!

HA! WE SCARED HIM AWAY!

HE'S BACK! WHAT'S HE DOIN' WITH OUR LOOT?

T-S STOLEN MONEY WILL PROVE TO BE THEIR UNDOING...

MY CYCLONE S SUCTION IS PULLING THEM TOGETHER-- KNOCKING THEM OUT!

CHONK

LEAVING THE THIEVES AND LOOT AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, THE DISCARNATE DETECTIVE SPEEDS HIS WAY BACK THROUGH THE ASTRAL PLANE....

TED. YOU WERE ACTING BEFORE LIKE YOU CONSIDERED YOURSELF A FAILURE! WHAT BROUGHT THIS ABOUT? WHEN WE LAST BATTLED TOGETHER WITH THE JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA YOU WERE FIT AS EVER!

ACCORDING TO HIS COHORTS, DOLD SKIPPED OUT ON THE GANG! HE IS NOT USING HIS ABILITY NOW SO I CAN'T LOCATE HIM!

WHILE WAITING FOR THE NEXT CONTACT, I'LL LOOK IN ON TED GRANT AGAIN!

SURE BUT THEN I DIDN'T HAVE PROBLEMS LIKE I'VE GOT TODAY!

EVERYTHING WAS FINE UNTIL FOUR WEEKS AGO...WHEN A CROOK HERE AND THERE STARTED GETTING AWAY FROM ME!

THE PAY-OFF CAME WHEN I RAN INTO THIS BRAIN-GUY...

I'VE LOST MY TOUCH! WILDCAT'S FINISHED... A HAS-BEEN...

CAN HARDLY BLAME HIM FOR A LITTLE GETTING HIM DOWN!

NEVER HAVING MARRIED AND RAISED A FAMILY, HIS CHOSEN PROFESSIONS--AS BOXER AND WILDCAT--PROVIDED MEANING FOR HIM..

BUT NOW...AFTER MAKING A FORTUNE IN THE RING SO HE DOESN'T HAVE TO WORK AGAIN--HIS AGE HAS STARTED CATCHING UP TO HIS WILDCAT IDENTITY, LEAVING HIS LIFE EMPTY!

HE NEEDS A NEW REASON TO GO ON--SOMETHING TO DO...

DO NOT DESPAIR, MY FRIEND! YOU HAVE OVERLOOKED ONE OF THE BIGGEST ASSETS YOU HAVE--YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF BOXING AND THE SCIENCE OF SELF-DEFENSE! WHY DON'T YOU...

BUT LET'S LEAVE OUR CRIME-AND-[illegible] FIGHTING DUO AND RETURN "HAPPY" JACK DOLD SOME TIME LATER, AS HE LEAVES A PLANE AT GATEWAY AIRPORT...

NEVER THOUGHT I'D COME BACK TO THIS ROTTEN CITY

I COULDA GOTTEN HERE ON MY OWN POWER BUT I HEARD THE SPECTRE SHOWED UP AFTER I LEFT THE HIDE-OUT AND I SURE DON'T WANNA TANGLE WITH HIM!

HE MUSTA FOUND OUT ABOUT ME WHEN I USED MY BRAIN-POWER--- SO I TOOK A PLANE!

BUT NOW I'M HERE IN MY HOME TOWN WHILE HE'S BACK IN BOCKER CITY SO I'M SAFE!

I'M GONNA GET REVENGE ON THIS STINKIN' TOWN FOR WHAT IT DID TO ME--EVERYBODY ALWAYS KICKED ME AROUND HERE!

13

I GOTTA DO SOMETHIN' THAT NOBODY'LL EVER FORGET! WHAT'S THE BIGGEST BLAST I--

HA! HA! GOT IT! I'LL BLOW UP THE WHOLE JOINT WITH MY OWN ATOMIC BOMB!

BUT FIRST I'M GONNA DECK MYSELF OUT IN A COSTUME LIKE THE SUPER-VILLAINS I USETA READ ABOUT IN COMICS!

HA HA--I LIKE THAT!

HERE GOES... JUST HAVE TO THINK HARD--AND PAINT THE TOWN ATOMIC RED! HA HA!

UNKNOWN TO THE MYSTIC WORLDWIND, THE ASTRAL AVENGER HAS RETURNED TO HIS HOST BODY IN DOWNTOWN GATEWAY CITY!...

THE LAST THING I EXPECTED WAS TO SEE GOLD HERE!

SO LONG, JIM! I'M OFF TO TAKE HIM...

CAREFUL! HE'S A TRICKY CUSTOMER!

HE'S GONE BERSERK! HE'S TRYING TO DESTROY GATEWAY CITY! I MUST ACT QUICKLY!

ALL RIGHT, CITY, YOUR TIME'S UP!

BURN CITY, BURN!

ENLARGING HIS SPECTRAL BODY, THE ANCIENT GUARDIAN CONTAINS THE MUSHROOM CLOUD WITHIN HIMSELF...

THE SPECTRE-- MUFFLING THE EXPLOSION...

---AND HURLING THE BLAST RIGHT BACK AT ME!

BADOOM

I'LL MATCH HIM TRICK FOR TRICK!

I'LL MOVE THE STUFF OFF INTO OUTER SPACE!

I'LL SLOW DOWN HIS TIME-SENSE--MAKE WHATEVER HE SEES FLEE IN FRONT OF HIM!

THEN I CAN MAKE MY MOVE TO DRAW THE POWERS FROM HIS BRAIN!

EVERYTHING I SEE--LIKE LOOKIN' AT A SPEEDED-UP FILM!

CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT. BETTER GET BACK ON THE GROUND!

TO THE SPECTRE'S DISMAY, HE DISCOVERS...

SO DOWN BY THE SHORE'S EDGE, THE GHOSTLY GUARDIAN PUTS HIS PLAN INTO EFFECT...

I CANNOT ABSORB HIS POWERS! I SENSE THAT THEY ORIGINATED FROM SOME OUTSIDE MYSTICAL FORCE IMPLANTED IN HIS BRAIN!

THAT MEANS I MUST CATCH HIM IN THE ACT OF USING HIS POWERS TO WREST THE FORCE AWAY FROM HIM!

I'VE RESTORED HIS TIME-SENSE TO NORMAL SO HE CAN ACT TO PROTECT HIMSELF FROM THIS THREAT I'M SHOVING AT HIM...

NOW...AS HE CONCENTRATES ON DEFENDING HIMSELF...

I DRAW THE MYSTICAL FORCE FROM HIS BRAIN!

TRAVELING WITH UNLIMITED CELERITY, THE GRIM GHOST JOURNEYS TO THE EDGE OF TIME AND SPACE...

AFTER DEPOSITING THE FORCE HERE--- WHERE IT CANNOT BE USED FOR EVIL AGAIN-- I'LL MAKE ANOTHER DEPOSIT AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS--- "HAPPY" JACK DOLD!

WEEKS LATER, AS DETECTIVE-CAPTAIN JIM CORRIGAN IS IN KNICKERBOCKER CITY FOR A POLICE CONVENTION...

THIS IS WHERE TED GRANT "WORKS" NOW! I PROMISED HIM I'D LOOK HIM UP THE NEXT TIME I WAS HERE!

DA

THANKS FOR SHOWING US THAT--CHAMP!

IT'LL SURE HELP US TO HANDLE OURSELVES!

LOOK AT TED BEAM AS THOSE KIDS THANK HIM!

AFTER THE SESSION IS COMPLETED, THE TWO FRIENDS CHAT...

I'M ALL CHARGED UP HELPING THESE KIDS ALONG! I REALIZE NOW THAT I CAN'T EXPECT TO LAST FOREVER AS WILDCAT--THOUGH I'M STILL READY IF NEEDED! MEANTIME, I HAVE MY WORK CUT OUT FOR ME RIGHT HERE!

AS THE EX-CHAMP-NOW-INSTRUCTOR GOES TO SHOWER AND DRESS, LEAVING THE DETECTIVE ALONE, WAITING...

YOU DID A FINE JOB OF COUNSELING, SPECTRE! TED'S A CHANGED MAN!

THANKS, JIM---BUT REALLY IT WAS SOMETHING TED HAD TO DO FOR HIMSELF!

TED HAD SPENT HIS LIFE COMPLETELY IMMERSED IN HIS WORK, WHICH AS A WAY OF LIFE CAN EASILY COLLAPSE, AS IT DID IN HIS CASE...

I MERELY SUGGESTED THAT HE SHIFT HIS INTEREST TO PEOPLE, USING HIS GIFTED ABILITIES TO HELP THOSE HE MEETS AND WORKS WITH, TO LIVE MORE FULLY IN SOME WAY...

WHETHER BY TEACHING YOUNGSTERS HOW TO BOX, OR HELPING SOCIETY CAPTURE LAW-BREAKERS, OR JUST BRIGHTENING A FRIEND'S DAY BY GREETING HIM WITH A SMILE...

THE END

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES:

Our canonical reprinting of the Legion of Super-Heroes moves onward this issue, entering the homestretch before their series in ADVENTURE COMICS began.

"Supergirl's Greatest Challenge" (originally published in ACTION COMICS #287, April, 1962) was her first active adventure with the Legionnaires after joining the team. Editor Weisinger had a fascination for signalling devices concealed in his heroes homes, and the Legionnaire book, ends which summon Supergirl are similar to statues that had summoned Superboy. (And to a lampshade which glowed to signal Superboy that police chief Parker wanted him, and so on...) Supergirl's response is noteworthy, though—it's the first time either she or Superboy flew to the Legion's future time under their own power! It's also the first time the Legionnaires summoned either to help them.

Minor inconsistencies with Legion lore abound, as usual in these early stories: the "Earth Police" rather than the Science Police shown in most tales and the "Chameleon Men" who are certainly Duralans (Chameleon Boy's race) being portrayed as green aliens somewhat unlike their later established form.

Meanwhile, we go to "Superman's Super-Courtship" from ACTION COMICS #289, June, 1962. This is the second of the "Adult" Legion stories which projected the grown-up lives of the Legionnaires. Again, the Legionnaires play an almost walk-on role, but this story is totally important to the continuity of the Legion's development because of a single panel plot-twist.

For purposes of the story's plot, it was necessary for Saturn Woman to be ineligible for Superman's romantic attentions... and that led to the longest lasting and most important characterization in the whole history of the Legion... the marriage of Lightning Lad and Saturn Girl. It would be almost another year (until "The Stolen Super-Powers" in ADVENTURE #304) before we'd see the romance build. But this tale established the inevitability of a wedding which only took place sixteen years later!

Otherwise the story suffers the same flaw as the earlier Adult Legion story—technology stalled at the level of the early teen Legion stories, where the heroes used flying belts. In fact, Superman and Supergirl create the flying belts that replaced them in this story—only to then have those same belts appear in future stories of the teen team.

Both stories were by Jerry Siegel and Jim Mooney. By the way, Jerry was kind enough to write in and correct some of our previous credits... he wrote "Prisoner of the Super Heroes" (reprinted in #491), "The Three Super-Heroes" (#492), "Supergirl's Three Super-Girl-Friends" (#493) and "The Legion of Super-Villains" (#494).

Next issue, at last—ADVENTURE COMICS #300 where it all began!

—Paul Levitz

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